**Conversation Questions  
Accidents at Home**

* What is the most dangerous thing in your home? How can it be made less dangerous?
* What is the most dangerous thing in your home for a child? How can it be made less dangerous?
* What is the most dangerous thing in your home for an elderly person? How can it be made less dangerous?
* What dangers can be found in the kitchen that can cause accidents?
* What can be done to prevent kitchen accidents?
* What can a parent do to childproof a kitchen?
* What dangers can be found in bathrooms that can cause accidents?
* What can be done to prevent bathroom accidents?
* What can a parent do to childproof a bathroom?
* What dangers can be found outside the home in the yard that can cause accidents?
* What can be done to prevent yard accidents?
* What can a parent do to childproof the yard?
* What other dangers can be found in a home in bedrooms, laundry rooms, garages, and living areas?
* What can be done throughout the house to prevent accidents?
* What can a parent do to childproof the different rooms of the home?
* Where at home would you put your first aid kit?
  + What would you have in it?
* Where are these items found in a house, why could they be dangerous, to whom could they be dangerous, and what could someone do to lessen the danger they present?
  + hot pan/pot
  + hot curling iron
  + knife
  + window
  + iron
  + medicines
  + gasoline
  + pool
  + insecticides
  + natural gas
  + balcony
  + toilets
  + staircase
  + stove/oven
  + stool/ladder
  + yard tools
  + fireplace
  + cellar /attic
  + bathtub
  + bad dog
  + tall pieces of furniture
  + swing set / playground
  + very clean glass sliding door
  + electronic equipment
  + cleaning supplies
  + lake/retention pond
  + loose carpet on slippery tile floor
  + glass table or sharp edged table
  + hairdryer
* What do you need to do if...
  + you cut your finger preparing food?
  + you fall down and can not move a limb?
  + your child drinks a poisonous liquid? (discuss syrup of ipecac)
  + the toilet is flooding the bathroom?
  + a pan on the stove is on fire?
  + a neighborneighbor's dog is growling at you?
  + our child falls off a chair and is bleeding?

**Conversation Questions  
Adoption**

* What is adoption?
* Do you know anyone who was adopted as a child?
* Do you know anyone who has adopted a child?
* What are some of the reasons people choose to adopt?
* What is the difference between domestic and international adoption?
* What are the views of adoption in your country?
* How would someone interested in adopting a child go about doing so?
* Where do children available for adoption come from?
* What happens to children that are not adopted?
* How do you go about adopting a child?
* Would you want to adopt a boy or a girl? Why?
* Do you think brothers and sisters should be separated in adoptions?
* Are adoptions common in your country?
* What are some organizations that help with adoptions?
* Should you tell the child that he or she was adopted? If so at what age? Or when?
* Should adopted children have the right to know their biological parents?
* Should families with birth children also adopt?
* Is the real parent the birth parent or the adoptive parent?
* Should adoptions be between children and families of the same race and or culture?
* How or should the adoptive parents maintain the adopted child's cultural identify?
* In your country are the legal rights of an adoptive child different from that of a birth child?
* What are the legal consequences of adopting a child from a different race or country?
* Why don't more people adopt a child?
* What makes a family, genetics or environment?
* Do you support an open adoption policy where the birth parents can choose to be involved in the child's life?
* Do you believe there is discrimination within the adoption organizations?
* Do you think a person should be able to adopt a child of a different race?
* Should a gay or lesbian couple be allowed to adopt a child?
* Should there be an age restriction for the adoptive parents?
* Should a single man or woman be able to adopt a child?
* If you were to find out that you were adopted and not really from the country where you are a citizen, which nationality would you hope would be your true mother country? Why?
* When is the right time for a child to be told that he/she was adopted?
* Do you think it is preferable to adopt or to use artificial reproduction technology?
* Would you agree to an open adoption or closed adoption? Why?
* What is an open adoption?
* Would you want to find your birth family? Why or why not?

**Conversation Questions  
Annoying Things**

* What annoys you about living where you live now?
* What annoys you about taking trains to work?
* What annoys you about driving a car?
* What annoys you most about living at home with your family?
* Do you think you have habits that annoy other people?
* Does it annoy you when people kiss in public?
* Do you get annoyed when someone cuts in front of you when you are waiting in line?
* What are some new pet peeves you have as a result of recent technology (i.e. cell phone use)?
* What annoying habits does your best friend have?
* Does smoking bother you?
* Do you get annoyed when other people display bad manners? Give some examples.
* What is the most annoying thing for you?
* What is the most annoying thing about your partner?
* Do you annoy people with some of your habits?
* What is something that your parents do that annoy you?
* Can annoying someone be a good thing?
* If something is annoying you, what do you usually do?
* What are some things that annoy you that don't annoy your best friend?
* How do you change annoying habits
* What are some things that car drivers do that annoy you?
* Can you think of some things children do that annoy adults around them?
* What does pet peeve mean?
  + What is your pet peeve?
* Does it annoy you when people don't use the right punctuation?
* What kind of people annoy you?
* Who is the most annoying person you know? Why?
* How do you inform someone they are being annoying
* Do you think other people find you annoying? Why?
* Who is the most annoying celebrity? Why?
* Which is more annoying, being caught in the rain without an umbrella, or finding out you don't have enough money to pay for something you really need?
* Is there anything about your teacher that annoys you? What will you do about it?

**Conversation Questions  
Arguing**

* Do you get along with argumentative people?
* Are you passionate about your beliefs?
* Do you ever try to impose your beliefs on others?
* Do you at times enjoy "playing the devil's advocate" (debating for the fun of it)?
* Do you get along argumentative people?
* Are you passionate about your beliefs?
* Would you describe yourself as an argumentative person?
* What other adjectives would you associate with an argumentative person?
* In your opinion is being argumentative a positive trait or a flaw?
* Are you easily persuaded in an argument?
* Do you ever try to impose your beliefs on others?
* Do you at times enjoy "playing the devil's advocate" (debating for the fun of it)?
* Have you ever taken part in a debate? Did you have to defend an opinion that wasn't your own? If so, was it easy? Did it make you re-evaluate your own views?
* How do you feel when someone disagrees with everything you have to say?
* Do have a "butinski"in your family? Do you tend to but in?
* At work do you often voice your opinions on controversial issues? If so, what kind of reception do get?
* Do you steer clear of some touchy topics or do you get a kick out of provoking others?
* How do you feel when you have a hunch someone's not paying attention to what you have to say? Do you raise your voice? Do you get nasty?
* How do you grab someone's attention when you're making a point? What can you do to lose it?
* Are hand gestures useful in an argument?
* Do you think it's disrespectful to argue with your elders?
* Do you often feel patronized in an argument?
* What do you say when someone is being condescending?

**Conversation Questions  
Beauty and Physical Attractiveness**

* Who do you think is the most beautiful person in your country?
* Who do you think is the most beautiful person alive today?
* Who was the most beautiful person in history?
* Who is the most attractive in your family?
* Does beauty affect one's success in life?
* Is it better to be physically attractive or intelligent?
* Is it better to be physically attractive or wealthy?
* Is beauty related to power?
  + Can you think of anyone who is in a position of power that is not physically attractive?
* Do people spend too much time and money on beauty?
* How much time should be spent on making yourself look better each day?
* Who would you say is beautiful that others maybe wouldn't?
* Do you think people should have cosmetic surgery to enhance their looks?
  + If so what is the minimum age when someone should have plastic surgery?
  + How popular is plastic surgery in your country?
  + What is the most popular feature for cosmetic alteration?
  + Do you think self-esteem affects beauty?
  + Do you think beauty affects self-esteem?
* How important is beauty in your daily life?
* Have you ever noticed anyone ever feeling pressured to be more beautiful?
* What do you think of the proverb, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder?"
  + Do you have any proverbs or idioms from your country that relate to beauty?
* What do you think "beauty is skin deep" means?
* What are some beauty tips that you could share?
* Do you think people with many tattoos can be beautiful?
  + How many tattoos is too many?
  + Would you ever get a tattoo?
  + Do you have a tattoo?
* Do you think people with many piercings can be beautiful?
  + What kind of body piercing, if any, do you feel are acceptable?
  + What kind of piercing, if any, do you feel are unacceptable?
* What personality trait is the most important for inner beauty?
* How do you define beauty, using your own words?
* Would you ever date someone who was not conventionally attractive?
* What makes one person more attractive than another?
* Do you think people from different countries than you see attractive the same way?
* Is there someone famous that is considered beautiful, that you think is not?
* Are beauty pageants good or bad?
* Should children be entered into beauty pageants?
* Do you think one gender or group worries more about beauty than another?
* Would you want your children to be beautiful or talented?
* What are some of the negatives about being beautiful?
* What are some examples of social pressures to improve on natural beauty?
  + For example, lipstick, haircutting, shaving, ...
* What do you think about plastic surgery?
  + Would you ever have plastic surgery?
  + If so, what would you change?

**Conversation Questions  
Behavior**

* What is good behavior?
* What is bad behavior?
* What should you do with a child who has very bad behavior?
* Should some parent give medicine to their children to calm them down?
* What is the right behavior to use in a restaurant? At school? At a party?
* Would you teach your child to "hit back" at school if somebody hits them?
* Can bad behavior lead to crime?
* How should we punish children who commit crimes?
* Should parents be held responsible for their children's behavior?
* Can you think of a behavior that is 'good' behavior in one culture and a 'bad' behavior in another culture?
* Can we teach our children good behavior?
* How can we teach our children good behavior?
* How do children acquire good behavior?
* What would you do if your child behaves badly in public?
* What would you do if you saw somebody else's child behaving badly in public?
* Would you spank your child for bad behavior?
* What would you do if you saw somebody spanking their child for bad behavior?
* What behavior is not acceptable among friends?
* How should movie stars behave in public?
* Should you always be on your best behavior?
* Is it OK to show negative types of behavior when you are angry?
* What behaviors make you feel good?
* What behaviors make you feel angry?
* What behaviors are expected from children towards their parents?
* What behaviors are expected from university and college students?
* Is it acceptable for parents to spank their children?
* Should corporal punishment be illegal?

**Conversation Questions  
Children**

* Were there many children in your family?
* How many children do you have. How many would you like to have.
* Do you enjoy being around children?
* When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
* What are the positive or negative things about being a child?
* Do you think that children are different today from the time when you were child? Or from 50 years ago? 100 years ago?
* What is most annoying or amazing thing about children?
* What is the most important thing that we need to teach children?
* Do you think that children are naturally good? Why or why not?
* What were some important experiences that you had when you were child which shaped you as a person?
* Why do you think children commit violent crimes?
* Do you think children are more violent today than they used to be? Why?
* What was your favorite game when you were a child?
* Do we have to answer children's questions even if they are unappropriate ones?

**Conversation Questions  
Classrooms**

* What do you like about your classroom?
* Do you think the teacher should assign seats to students?
* What kind of classroom setting is the best for you?
* What are five things you like about your classroom?
* What are five things you don't like about your classroom?
* What are five things you would like to change in your classroom?
* Do you enjoy changing classrooms for different classes?
* What is the ideal seating plan or arrangement in a classroom?
* Is there any air-conditioning in your classroom?
* Is your classroom a nice place to study?
* Do you like the location of your desk in your classroom?
* Do you think that smart students always sit down in front?

**Conversation Questions  
Colors**

* What's your favorite color?
  + Has your favorite color changed as you've grown older?
* Do you have a color that you hate?
  + If so, what is it?
  + Why do you hate it?
* Do you think colors affect your mood?
  + How does red make you feel?
  + How does green make you feel?
  + How does blue make you feel?
  + How does purple make you feel?
  + How does black make you feel?
  + How does white make you feel?
  + How does yellow make you feel?
  + How does brown make you feel?
  + How does grey make you feel?
  + What do you think of orange?
* Do you think different cultures have different meanings for colors?
  + What do the different colors mean in your culture?
* Do you associate any colors with specific items, numbers, or letters not usually associated with color?
* Can you think of different idioms or expressions involving color?
  + What's a "black and white" matter.
  + What does it mean to "see red"?
  + What does it mean to "feel blue"?
  + What does it mean to "be yellow"?
  + What's a "black tie affair"?
  + What does it mean to be "blacklisted"?
  + What does it mean to be "the black sheep in the family"?
* How many colors are in the rainbow? What are they?
* What colors are on your national flag?
* What's the best color for a car?
  + What's the best color for a house?
  + What do you think is the best color for lens in sunglasses?
* What's the color for passion?
  + What's the color for hatred?
  + What's the color for happiness?
  + What's the color for sadness?
  + What's the color for anger?
  + What's the color for death?
  + What's the color for jealousy?
  + What is the color of envy ?
  + What's the color for cowardice?
* What color is money in your country?
* Do you know anyone who is color blind?
  + What colors do most color blind people not see?
* Do you think animals can see color?
* What does black-sheep of the family mean?
* Do you dream in color?
* How would you compare the feeling you get watching a movie in black and white to watching it in color?
* What color clothes do you like to wear?
  + What colors do you think look good on you?
  + What color shoes do you like to wear?
* What do you think is the strangest color for a car?
  + How about a house?
  + How about clothing?
  + How about hair color?
* Do you know anyone who has dyed their hair a strange color? (... an unnatural hair color such as blue or multiple shades?)
* Have you ever seen a pet dog or cat with dyed fur?
* Do you think different colors have different meanings? If so, what do different colors mean?
* Do the color blind dream in color?
  + Do you think people who are color blind can dream in color?
* What color ink do you like using the most?
  + What is the meaning of writing with black ink?
  + What is the meaning of writing with green ink?
  + What is the meaning of writing with red ink?
  + What is the meaning of writing with blue ink?
* What color of paper you like most if you want to write a letter to your friends or loved ones?
* What is the color of the bedspread on your bed?
* What is your least favorite color?
* What color toothbrush do you have?
  + Does everyone in your family use a different color toothbrush?
* What color towels do you use?
* What color are the curtains in your bedroom?
* What does it mean when someone says he's feeling blue?
* What does it means when someone says they are green with envy?
* w\What does it means when someone says "you look green at the gills"?
* What does it mean when someone says "I was so mad I was seeing red"?
* What does it mean when someone says "he was black as an ace of spades"?
* What is pink eye?
* We are not sure what this means, but it was submitted.
  + What does it mean when you see the color of a rainbow in your eyes?
* What would you think of life without colors?
  + What do you think life would be like without colors?
  + How would life change?
  + What things wouldn't change?
  + Are color blind people completely blind to all colors?
* Do you think a person's favorite color will always be his/her favorite color?
  + Do favorite colors change throughout life?
* Have you ever tried to invent a new color?
  + Try it right now: try to think of a color that doesn't exist, one you'd like to see.
  + What does it look like?
  + (Note: It is physically impossible to conceive of a color that isn't a shade of a color that already exists, but students will enjoy trying for a few minutes and the impossibility of it makes for good conversation.)

**Conversation Questions  
Computers**

* Are you computer literate?
* Are you connected to the Internet?
  + Do you access the Internet with your computer?
  + Can you access the Internet from your home?
  + What is your favorite "news" site?
  + What Internet sites do you visit regularly?
* Can your mother and father use a computer?
* Do you have a computer?
  + Do you have a computer at work and at home?
  + Do you have a laptop or a desktop computer? Do you have both?
  + Do you use your computer when you do homework for school?
  + Have you ever studied English using your computer?
  + How many times have you upgraded your computer?
  + How powerful is your computer?
  + What company made your computer?
  + What kind of computer do you have?
  + What size is your computer screen?
    - What do you think is the best size to have?
  + Where do you use your computer?
  + Where in your room is your computer?
  + Why did you buy your computer?
* Do you have a digital camera?
  + Do you send photos by e-mail?
  + What kind of pictures do you take with your digital camera?
* Do you have a scanner?
  + What kind of scanner do you have?
* Do you have a web page?
  + What's the URL?
  + When did you start it?
  + How much time did it take to make?
  + How much time do you spend keeping it updated?
* Do you know any computer programming languages?
  + How many computer programming languages do you know?
  + Which languages do you know?
  + Which language do you use the most often?
* Do you read computer magazines?
  + Which computer magazines do you read?
* Do you use a computer?
  + Are you good at using a computer?
  + Are you still using your first computer?
  + Did you learn to use a computer in high school?
  + Do you know how to type well?
  + How often do you use a computer?
  + What are some of your favorite computer games?
  + What do you use a computer for?
  + What operating system do you use?
  + What software do you use the most often?
  + When did you first start using a computer?
  + Who taught you to use a computer?
* Do you use chat-rooms? If so, what chat-rooms do you use and who do you talk to?
* Do you use e-mail?
  + Do you use e-mail every day?
  + Do you write e-mail in English?
  + Have you ever sent an e-mail to your teacher?
  + How many e-mails do you get a day?
  + How many e-mails do you send a day?
  + How many times a day do you access your e-mail?
  + What's your e-mail address?
  + How many e-mail addresses do you have?
* Do you want a more powerful computer? If so, what computer do you want?
* Does your family have a computer?
* How fast can you type?
* Have you ever taken a course at school where you used a computer?
* Have you tried Mac-OS, Windows and Linux?
* How do you study English with your computer?
* How does e-mail work?
* How many people in your family can use a computer?
* How much did your first computer cost? How much did you last computer cost?
* How much does it cost by buy a computer?
  + What's the least expensive?
  + What's the most expensive?
* How much does your Internet service provider cost?
  + Which ISP do you use?
* If you could buy a new computer, what would you like to buy?
* If you had lots of money, what kind of computer system would you like to buy?
* What is the difference between software and hardware?
* Which do you like better, a laptop computer or a desktop computer?
* What is your favorite website?
* Do you ever visit English websites while web-surfing?
* Do you think our lives have been improved by computer technology? Think of a few examples of how computers have an educational or an entertainment value. Could you do without them?
* What is multimedia?
  + What are the components and the element of multimedia?
* When did you first get a computer?
  + What kind of computer was it?
  + About how much did it cost?
  + Do you still have it?
  + Do you still use it?
* Do you remember the first time you used a computer or the Internet?
  + What did you think about it?
* How long have there been personal computers in your country?
  + When did the average person start using a computer?
* Can your parents operate a computer? / Can you children use a computer?
* Do you think a computer can bring us happiness?
* Do you have a computer?
* Do you know any computer languages like C or C++?
* What is configuration of your PC?
* How often do you perform a backup? What kind of backup method do you use? What kind of backup media do you use?
* What are some good things about having a computer?
* What are some bad things about having a computer?
* Does having a computer make life more complicated or less complicated?
* What computer games have you played?

Which are your favorites?

* + Which do you think are not so interesting?
* What are chat rooms and instant messaging? Why can these be dangerous for you and your kids?

**Conversation Questions  
Conflict**

* What is conflict?
* When you see the word "conflict", what do you think of?
* What causes conflict?
* Is conflict inevitable?
* Is conflict always negative?
* How can conflicts be resolved?
* What would you consider to be a constructive approach to conflict?
* What would you consider to be a destructive approach to conflict?
* Does there have to be a winner and a loser of a conflict?
* What happens to people who are involved in conflicts?
* What conflicts are going on around the world?
* What conflicts exist in your life?
* How do you deal with conflicts?
* Can violent conflicts be solved with violence?
* How can the world be peaceful when other countries are not trying to bring peace?
* Can conflicts at work place affect the efficiency of one's work?

**Conversation Questions  
Creativity**

* What is creativity?
* Do you consider yourself a creative person? Why?
* What is something creative that you have done?
* Is creativity a good thing? Why or why not?
* What are some ways that a person can be creative?
* Is taking a risk part of creativity?
* Do you often question the way things work?
* Do you like to improve things?
* What are some creative ways to entertain children?
* Can you think of a device that would make people's life easier?

**Conversation Questions  
Dating**

* Describe a perfect date.
* Describe the appearance of the person you would like to date?
* Describe the character of the person you would like to date?
* Do you "go Dutch" when dating?
* Do you know what it means to 'go Dutch'?
* Is it usual for people in your country to 'go Dutch' if you go out together?
* Do older girls/boys have a problem dating younger girls/boys?
  + Do younger girls/boys have a problem dating older girls/boys?
* Do you believe in love at first sight?
  + Do you think some people know that they will fall in love with someone the first time they meet?
* Do you know what a 'blind date' is?
* Have you ever been on a blind date?
* Did you ever arrange a blind date?
* Do you drive or take the train when dating?
* Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?
  + Where did you meet your him/her?
  + What does he/she look like?
* Do you think fairy tales influence our choice of a partner?
* Have you ever had a crush on someone?
* Have you ever hated loving someone?
* Have your parents ever disapproved of any of your relationships?
* How often would you like to go out on dates?
* How old were you when you had your first boyfriend or girlfriend?
* How old were you when you went on your first date?
  + Where did you go?
  + What did you do?
  + Who did you go with?
* Is going out on dates important for you?
* Is there a such thing as a perfect relationship for you?
* If you could go out with anyone, who would it be?
* If you are a man, and a woman asks you for a date, do you feel you should pay, or that the woman should pay?
* What are some popular places to go on a date?
* What characteristics do you look for in a girlfriend or boyfriend?
* What do you consider cheating in a dating relationship?
* What do you like to talk about when on a date?
* What do you look for in a girlfriend or a boyfriend?
* What do you think most people talk about when dating?
* What kind of clothes do you wear on a date?
* What qualities are important to you in a boyfriend or girlfriend?
* What was the most boring date you've ever been on?
* What was the most interesting date you've ever been on?
* What would you consider "the perfect date" for you?
* Where is a good pace to go on a date in this town?
* Where would you like to go on a date?
* Would you mind if your boyfriend/girlfriend went out to party without you?
* Would you prefer to go out with a quiet or a talkative person?
* At what age do you think that dating should begin?
  + Do you think there is any age when a person is too old to date?
* Does your first love still hold a special place in your heart? Do you believe that he or she will always have a special place in your heart?
* What is your definition of love?
* Would you wait on a person you were dating for a long time if they joined the army?
  + How about if they went to prison?
* What do you think about dating a friend's ex-girlfriend or ex-boyfriend?
* Are there any superstitions on making someone fall in love with you?
  + Have you heard of any successful "love potions?"
* Can you control your partner by playing games?
* When should you introduce your boyfriend/girlfriend to your parents? (when you begin dating, after you have been together for a while, only when the relationship is serious) Why?
* Do you like to have boy friend or girl friend in your school or in your classes?
* Do you think it is right to continue seeing a person if he has not introduced you to his family yet?
* How long does it take for dating to become a relationship?
* Is it important to be punctual in your first date? Why?
* Would you dress up for a first date? What clothes would you wear?
* What kind of place do you think is the ideal for a first date? Why do you think so?
* Do you think that age difference is important when dating?
* Would you date someone much older or younger than you? Why or why not?
* Would your parents have a problem if you married someone much older or younger than you? Would it make a difference if that person were rich?
* Do you like to flirt? If so, what do you usually do? Where? With whom? Why?
* Do you ever set your friends up on blind dates? If so, have you had much success?
* Do you think blind dates are a good way to meet someone special? Why or why not?
* What is an intimate relationship for you?
* How do you know you are in a relationship?
* Do you have any expectations for your partner?

**Conversation Questions  
Diets**

* Have you ever been on a diet?
* How do you know if you are fat?
* What is the best way to diet?
* Do you think dieting can be dangerous?
* Do you think fiber is important in your diet?
* What kind of fiber is the best when you are trying to loose weight?
* Do you think protein is important in a balanced diet?
* What is a good source of protein?
* Do you think people who are fat can be happy?
* Do you think people are in general are gaining weight or loosing weight?
* Have you ever been on a diet?
* What kind of diet would you recommend to your friend?
* What kind of diet would recommended for an older person(40's) and a younger person(teens)?
* What is the difference between diet and a healthy diet?

**Conversation Questions  
Discrimination**

* What are some forms of discrimination?
* Have you ever been discriminated against?
* How do people fight discrimination?
* Why do you think discrimination exists?
* Have you ever discriminated against some race?
* What could you do to reduce discrimination?
* Do some countries discriminate against race more than other countries?
* Have you ever discriminated against the english-speaking population of your school?
* What would you do to cope with discrimination?
* Has the discrimination level changed for you, after you moved to another country?
* Have your close friends or family ever been discriminated against?
  + If so, did you do anything to stop it?
* Have you ever been discriminated against because of your sex?
* Have you ever been discriminated against because of your education level?
* Why do people discriminate?
* Is discriminating against a certain group of people ever justified?
* Have you ever experienced discrimination?
* What should be done to stop discrimination?
* Do you think males and females are equal?
* Do you know anybody who has fought for equal rights?
* Are you a member of any humanitarian organization?
* What will happen in the future?
* Would you let your child marry a person with a different skin color?
* Would you let your child marry a person with a different religion?
* Why do men earn more than women?
* Do you have any prejudices?
* Would you adopt a child from a different culture?
* Why do we treat people differently?
* Why do some white people think of themselves as superior?
* Should it be illegal to publish racial information?

**Conversation Questions  
Dreams**

* Do you usually remember your dreams? Why/ Why not? Describe some of them.
* What was your nicest dream that you can remember?
* Talk about the most recent dream you can remember that you have had in the past.
* Talk about a recurring dream that you have had in the past.
* How do you interpret a dream? Do you use your intuition/imagination to understand it?
* Do you usually read books on dream interpretation? What is your opinion on it?
* Do you generally have pleasant dreams or nightmares?
* Have you ever had nightmares? What were they like?
* What's the worst nightmare you've ever had?
* What is "prophecy"?
* Have you ever had or heard of a dream that foretold the future?
* Did you know that Abraham Lincoln supposedly foresaw his own assassination in a dream? What do you think about it?
* Have you ever dreamed about dead people? Is it a good signal? Why/Why not?
* Have you ever dreamt about dead friends or relatives? How was it? How did you feel?
* There is a movie called "The Cell" with Jeniffer Lopez - It is about dreams - Have you ever watched this film? Would you like to see it? Why/Why not?
* Are dream messages sent from our unconscious, predictions of the future, or the brain's way of cleaning out information?
* Some people say that dreaming about losing money means that you will receive it. Have you ever heard this? What other sayings about dreams do you know?
* Do your dreams ever affect your moods? Explain.
* Do you usually dream in black and white or in color?
* What language do you dream in? Have you ever dreamt in a language that you don't speak?
* Have you ever woken up from a dream "in a cold sweat"?
* Do you believe that dreams can sometimes predict the future?
* Has anyone told you if you have walked or talked in your sleep?
* Here is a list of dream images. What might they represent?
  + a road
  + the sky
  + snow
  + a garden
  + an open door
  + a light
  + sand
  + fire
  + falling
  + darkness
  + being chased
  + speaking with a dead relative
  + flying
* When you were a child, what was your dream for the future? Has it changed?
* Do you remember what you dream about in your sleep?
* What is your dream for the future?
* Have your dreams for your future changed?
* Do you tell people about your dreams?
* Do you think you can achieve your dreams?
* If you had lots of money what would you do with it?
* Do you think that having a lot of money can make you happy?
* Do you think that having dreams and aspirations is a waste of time?

**Conversation Questions  
Drugs**

* Do you think alcohol is a drug?
* What is alcoholism?
* Do you know of any alcoholics?
* How do you stop being an alcoholic?
* Do you know how much alcohol is in beer?
* Do you know how much alcohol is in whiskey?
* What are some of the characteristics of drunk people?
* Is alcohol addictive? What about tea, coffee, and chocolate?
* Should marijuana be illegal?
* Do you think marijuana should be legal or illegal? Support your opinion with facts.
* Why do you think marijuana is illegal?
* Is marijuana grown in your country?
* What are some ways drug users use marijuana?
* Do you think tobacco companies would like to sell marijuana?
* Why do you think that tobacco is a legal drug?
* Are any of your friends addicted to tobacco?
* What are the different ways to use tobacco?
* Do you know anyone who smokes a pipe?
* What is the difference between pipe tobacco and cigarette tobacco?
* What do you think about chewing tobacco?
* Is there any difference between "soft" drugs such as marijuana and "hard" drugs like crack, heroin, cocaine etc?
* Is ecstasy a soft or a hard drug?
* Should there be punishments for dealing drugs?
* Should there be punishments for using drugs?
* Should drug dealers get the death penalty?
* If heroin were legal, would there be less crime? For example, burglary and robbery.
* Are some people more easily addicted to drugs than others?
* Do some people have addictive personalities?
* If you are addicted to drugs, what should you do?
* What else can people become addicted to?
* Why are some drugs more addicting than others?
* Why do some people get addicted when others do not?
* What happens in the brain of a person that causes addiction?
* Do you know how much illegal drugs cost?
* Do you think it is easy to buy illegal drugs where you live?
* Which is worse, a peaceful drug addict or a violent non-addict?
* Should pregnant women be arrested for child abuse if they use drugs when they are pregnant which may affect the baby?
* Should women be prevented legally from drinking any alcohol or smoking when pregnant?
* Do you think it is a good idea to have safe, legal injecting rooms for intravenous drug users, where they can use clean equipment and sterile water?
* Cancer patients find that marijuana stops their pain. Should it be legal for them?
* Do you think experimenting with alcohol and cigarettes leads to experimenting with harder drugs?
* Do you think ecstasy is dangerous?
* At what age should it be legal to drink and smoke?
* Do we use too many prescription drugs?
* What are natural remedies?
* Are natural remedies like homeopathy and herbal medicine drugs too?
* Do we give too many prescribed drugs to children?
* Why is the cost of prescription drugs so high?
* Have you ever used a prescription drug without a prescription?
* What do you think society ought to do about people who spend most of their time and money getting high on illegal drugs? Why?
* Should employers be allowed to "drug test" their employees?
* Why do you think people start using drugs?
* What should happen to babies who are born addicted to drugs?
* What would you do if someone in your family were addicted to drugs?
* What do you know about drugs?
  + What are some dangerous drugs?
  + What drugs do you think are useful?
  + What drugs are addicting?
* Do you think that marijuana should be legal for medical uses with a prescription from a doctor?
* What does crack cocaine do to your body?
  + What does it do to your mind?
  + What will happen if you keep on using?
  + How do you stop yourself from using it? / How does an addict quit using it?
* What kind of drugs are the most popular in your country?
  + What kind of "legal" drugs are the most popular?
* Are we as a society addicted to legal drugs?
* In your culture, what are some home remedies for:
  + Stomach aches

**Conversation Questions  
Education**

* Are college tuitions reasonable?
* Are foreign languages part of the curriculum? If so, which languages?
* Are most schools coeducational in your country?
* Are there any subjects/classes you wanted to study but they weren't available at your school/college?
* Are there good colleges in your country?
* Are women encouraged to pursue education?
* Do you have difficulty with school work?
* Do you know anyone who does not know how to read or write?
* Do you think teachers are paid enough?
* Do you think your school is a good one? Why/why not?
* Do you think your teachers give too much homework?
* Do you think it is easier to learn as a child or as an adult?
* Do you think public speaking can improve your english?
* How can we improve our classroom?
* Why English is hard to learn at university level?
* How do you travel to school?
* How long must you go to college to get a degree?
* How much is too much homework? How should the homework load be managed?
* If you have not attended college, do you plan on doing so?
* Is it difficult for people without a college education to get good jobs where you live?
* What are some good ways to learn English?
* What are some important factors in determining which college to attend?
* What are the qualities of a good student?
* What are the qualities of a good teacher?
* What classes would you take?
* What do you study? What's your major?
* What is the average age of a high school graduate?
* What is your favorite class?
* What was (or is) your favorite subject? Why do you like it?
* Who selects the college you will attend -- you or your parents?
* Why are you studying a foreign language?
* Why do you think people become teachers?
* Why is it helpful to learn a Second language ?
* Why is it sometimes very difficult to speak another language?
* Would you consider studying abroad?
* How much free time does a high school student in your country have?
* Do parents home-school their children in your country?
  + What do you think of home-schooling?
  + Do you know anyone who was home-schooled?
* Do you think that most parents influence what university their child will attend?
* Once you graduate from a university should you stop learning?
  + What are some ways a person can continue to learn?
* Does education guarantee a good job?
* Which is more important, the essential skills in life you've learned to develop on your own or the artificial structure in college about the "real" life?
* Which high schools and colleges are the best in your country?
* Which high schools and colleges are not so good in your country?
* We should not just prepare for life, but live it. Do you agree?
* What kind of world do you think this would be if people never went to school?
* Should education be free?
* Do the elite in your country attend only one or two universities?
* Do elite universities help or harm your country?
* Does your country provide a good public school system?
* Do your children attend US schools? If so, how do their schools differ from those your children attended back home?
* Does your country have good public universities? If not, why do you think there is a lack of funding for education in your country?
* What realistic changes would you make to your country's attitude toward education?
* What role do you think human capital plays in the development of countries?
* Why do students cheat during tests and exams?
* How do they cheat?
* What is your attitude towards cheating?
* What are the dangers of cheating?
* How should parents react?
* How should teachers react?
* What is the role of school and decision makers?
* Where do we learn the skills necessary to become a good student - in elementary, middle or high school?
* What skills separate good students from bad students?
* What do you think about a gap year, is this something you would consider?
* Should people go straight from school to university, or do something different?
* What do you wish your teachers understood about you?
* What is a "genius"?
* Do you think a person can become a genius, or are they just born that way?
* What do you consider to be a "smart" or "slow" person?
* Are things that your school teaches you that you think are not important?
* Are there things your school does not teach that you think it should?
* Are school uniforms good to have? Why/why not?
* Do prefer school uniforms or casuals clothes better?
* Would you ever want to learn a third language? [To be "trilingual"]
* What do you consider "hardworking" or 'lazy"?

**Conversation Questions  
Eye Contact**

* The eyes have been called "the window to the soul". What do you think that means?
* In USA culture we have many 'rules' about eye contact. These are unspoken and most North Americans are not aware that we have rules.
  + What is appropriate in your culture?
  + What is appropriate in this culture?
* When you are telling some one something that you feel is important, what should your eye contact be.
* Is it OK if they look at something else whileyou are talking?
* Are there different rules for eye contact when you are addressing a person of higher status? Like the President or an elder?
* If you do not make eye contact what does that mean?
* If you make too mucheye contact what does that mean?
* If you were in love what kind of eye contact would you make?
* If you were ashamed, what kind of eye contact would you make?
* If you were lying, or not telling the whole truth, what would your eye contact be like?
* If you were giving a speech or talking with a crowd what would your eye contact be like?
* If you are talking with a child and you think they are lying, do you think you could tell by looking at their eyes?
* How about an adult that you think is not telling the truth, could you tell by their eyes?
* What are the rules for males and females talking to each other?
* If a woman looks directly at a man is she being too forward or sexually aggressive?

**Conversation Questions  
Family**

A

* Are friends more important than family? What do you think?
* Are chores assigned to children in your family?
* Are you married?
* Are you pressured by your family to act in a certain way?
* Are you the oldest among your brothers and sisters?
* Are your parents strict?
* Did you ever meet any of your great grandparents?
* Do you get along well with your family?
  + Do you get along well with your brothers and sisters?
  + Do you get along well with your in-laws?
* Do you have any brothers or sisters? If so, how old are they?
* Do you have any children? If yes, what are their names and ages?
* Do you have to clean your own room?
  + Does your mother make you clean your room?
* Do you like your family? Why or why not?
* Do you live with any of your grandparents?
* Do you live with your parents?
* Do you look more like your mother or your father?
* Do you often argue with your mother or father? What about?
* Do you often visit your grandparents?
* Do you think people should adopt children from other countries?
* Do you usually have any influence on family matters?
* Do your parents let you stay out late?
  + What time do you have to be home?
  + Do you have a curfew?
* How did you get your name?
  + For whom are you named?
  + Who are you named after?
* How big is your family?
* How many (first) cousins do you have?
* How many aunts and uncles do you have?
* How many brothers and sisters do you have?
* How many children do you have?
* How many members do you have in your family altogether?
* How many people are in your (immediate) family?
* How many people are in your family?
* How often do you see your cousins?
* How often do you see your grandparents?
* How often is your entire family together?
* How old are your brothers and sisters?
* How old are your children?
* How old are your grandparents?
* How old are your parents?
* Is spanking a good way to discipline children?
* Should people follow the religion of their parents, or should they have the liberty to choose another?
* What are some of your fondest memories of childhood?
* What are your parents like?
* What do you and your family like to do together?
* What do you think of married couples who decide not to have any child?
* What do your mother and father look like? How about your grandparents?
* What do your parents do in their free time?
* What are the occupations of your family members?
  + What does your father do? What's his job?
  + What does your mother do?
* What is the best memory you have of your family doing something together?
* What kind of things do you do with your family?
* What will you teach your children? (what values, beliefs, hobbies, skills, etc.)
* What would you change about your childhood?
* Where do your grandparents live?
* Where does your father's father live?
* Where does your mother's mother live?
* Who do you get along better with, your mother or your father?
* Who is the black sheep (odd ball) in your family?
* Would you get involved in your in-laws' family problems?
* Would you live with your parents after you get married?
* Should children help with the housework?
  + How much or how often should they help?
  + What kinds of housework is not appropriate for children to do?
* Do you live in a nuclear family or an extended family?
  + What are the advantages and disadvantages of these types of family?
* What impact has divorce and/or modern day living had on the family?
* Is the nanny and/or the day-care centre the third parent?
* Where is the best place to raise a family?
  + Where do you think the best place to raise a family is? Why?
* What can make you happy in the long term/ short term? Consider the following: job satisfaction, a loving family, good health, plenty of money, strong religious believes, ...
* Do you think your parents understand you? Why or why not?
* Who does the household work, your father or your mother or both of them?
* Have you ever seen your mother (or father) cry? When was that and why?
* What do you think of your mother and your father?
* Which do you think is more important: following the dreams your parents want for you or following your own dreams?
* What's the hardest thing you ever had to do?
* What was the most important thing your parents taught you?
* What's the best thing about your mom?
* If you could have a different number of siblings, what would it be?
* Who should take care of old people?
* What is the perfect number of children to have?
* What's the best thing about your grandparents?
* Should parents give their children an allowance?
* How often does your family eat dinner together?
* How should parents discipline their children?
* After you're married, should your parents make decisions for you?
* What's the best thing about your dad?
* Who is the breadwinner in your family?
* How is nudity regarded in your family?
* Describe the perfect family.
* Do your parents get along with each other?
* Do your parents trust you?
* If you were offered an excellent job opportunity abroad, would you consider leaving your family for an indefinite period of time?
* Describe a typical family unit and the importance of family in your country.

**Conversation Questions  
Fears**

* Are there any parts of the city where you live which you are afraid to visit after dark? Where? Why?
* Are there certain weather conditions that scare people? What are they? Why do people become scared?
* Are you afraid of flying?
  + (Are you afraid to fly in an airplane?)
* Are you afraid of ghosts?
* Are you afraid of giving a speech in public?
  + (Does it scare you to speak in public?)
* Are you afraid of going to the dentist?
* Are you afraid of heights?
* Are you afraid of scary movies?
* Are you afraid of the dark?
* Are you afraid to die? Why?
* Are you afraid of getting old? Why?
* Are there any numbers that people are afraid of in your culture?
* Do you fear certain insects/animals? Why?
* Do you know anyone with a phobia?
* Do you like horror movies?
* Do you think young children should be allowed to watch horror movies?
* How do you react when you see something frightening?
* Is there any person you are afraid of?
* Were you afraid of the dark as a child?
* Were you afraid on your first day of school here in the United States? How do you feel now?
* What animal do you think is the most scary?
  + (What animal scares you the most?)
* What are some things which many people are afraid of? Why are they afraid of them?
* What is the scariest movie you have ever seen?
* What is your biggest fear in life? Are you afraid that it might come true?
* What kinds of things make you nervous?
* What was the most frightening experience you've had?
* When you were a child, what things were you afraid of?
* Do you ever have nightmares (bad dreams)?
  + What are they about?
  + How often do you have nightmares?
* Have you ever seen any TV shows where people face their fears for money? e.g. Fear Factor etc.?
  + Would you ever face one of your fears for money?
  + Do you find this kind of show interesting to watch?
* What is your biggest fear?
* Have you overcome any of your fears?
* Are you afraid of being ill? What disease are you most afraid of? Why?
* Do you believe people can be cured of phobias by hypnosis?

**Conversation Questions  
Friends**

* Are there any famous stories of friendship in your culture? (Eg. David and Jonathan)
* Describe one of your closest friends.
* Do you have any childhood friendships that are still strong today? Tell us about them.
* Do you have any long distance friends?
  + How do you keep in touch with your long-distance friends?
  + How often do you see your long-distance friends?
* Do you think it is a good idea to borrow money from a friend? Why or why not?
* Do you make friends easily?
* Has a friend ever let you down?
* Have you made any friends over the Internet?
  + How often do you write to them?
  + Have you ever met them in person?
* How are your friendships different now than they were when you were a child?
* How do you maintain a good friendship?
* How do you make new friends?
* How many people do you consider your "best friends?"
* Is it common to have friendships across generations?
  + What are the advantages and disadvantages of these types of friendships.
  + Do you have any friends from a different generation than you?
* There is a saying "To have a good friend, you need to be a good friend."
  + How can you be a good friend?
* What do you usually do with your friends?
* What factors may result in the breakdown of a good friendship?
* What is a best friend?
* What is the longest friendship that you have had?
* What makes friends different from family?
* What qualities do you think are important in a friend?
  + What is a friend?
* What things should friends never do?
* Why do you like your best friend?
  + What are some things you like about your best friend?
* Where is a good place to meet new friends?
  + Where is a good place to meet a new boyfriend/girlfriend?
* Do you think it is possible to have a best friend of the opposite sex without becoming a girlfriend or boyfriend?
* Do you think it would be possible for you still be friends with an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend?
* There is a proverb that says, "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Do you agree?
* Do you believe that there is an end to any true friendships?
* Do you believe your parents should be your friends?
* What do you do if you receive a friend's call but you forgot his/her name?
* Friendship is the most important relationship. Do you agree? Why? Why not?
* What do you like best about your best friend(s)?
* What are some ways your best friend has influenced your life in a positive way?
* What are some ways your best friend has influenced your life in a positive way?
* How close do you get to your friends?
* Why do you need a friend?
* What do you do when you have a misunderstanding with your friend?
* Do you trust all of your friends? Why?
* What is the best time for making new friends?
* What was your best friendship?
  + Are you still friends with him or her?
  + What life lessons did you learn from this relationship?
* What qualities do you appreciate in your friends? What makes someone special or best friend?
* Why are friendships important for you? Do you still maintain friendships from the past?
* How long have you known your best friend? Where did you meet and what did you have in common?
* What are some good opportunities to meet new people?
* How can you get to better know a person?
* What is the relationship between love and friendship?
* Who is the most interesting person you have ever met?
* Do you think famous people are happier than ordinary people? Why?
* What type of people do you get along with best?
* What quality do you admire most in people and which one do you find the most objectionable?
* What behavior of others hurts you most? When you have upset someone by your actions, what do you try to do?
* What do you consider to be your good and bad qualities?
* What qualities help you to have good relationships with others?
* What traits or actions make an interpersonal conflict worse?
* Are relationships among people better or worse than a few years ago? Why? Give some examples.
* Do you think that dysfunctional family life contributes to worsening relationships in society?
* Is getting along with others a natural ability from birth or does it have to be learnt?
* How important is forgiveness in human relationships?
* What are friends for?
* Can you be friends with your student if you are a teacher?
* To what extent can you be friends with your child?

**Conversation Questions  
Gambling**

* How many forms of gambling can you think of?
* What percentage of people do you think gamble?
* What is the most amount of money that you can afford to loose?
* Do you bet? How often? What's the biggest bet you ever placed?
* Apart from the obvious financial problem what other consequences can occur as a result of excessive gambling?
* Who suffers the most from a gambling problem?
* Apart from the obvious reason of winning money, why do people gamble?
* Why is gambling addictive?
* Do you think gambling could be caused by genetics?
* What kinds of people do you think are more prone to developing a gambling problem?
* At what age do people generally start gambling?
* What's the usual age limit for gambling games?
* Do you regard putting money in machines for prizes, at an amusement arcade, as gambling?
* Is there such a thing as good and bad luck? If so, what is it?
* Does luck have anything to do with winning?
* Do you think it's possible for a gambling addict to kick the habit?
* What help is available for addicts?
* What techniques can you think of that may help an addicted gambler quit?
* Should some forms of gambling be banned?
* Do you think that those who own and run casinos are criminals or conmen?
* Does the national lottery encourage gambling?

**Conversation Questions  
Gender Roles**

* Do you see yourself as a typical man/woman? Why or why not?
* In your country
  + Are the responsibilities of a mother the same as the responsibilities of a father to their families?
  + What are the responsibilities of a father to his family?
  + What are the responsibilities of a mother to her family?
  + Are fathers capable of carrying out the duties of a mother and vice versa?
  + Are there different expectations for sons and daughters?
  + What habits are deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women?
  + What behaviors are deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women?
  + What jobs are deemed as appropriate for men but inappropriate for women?
  + Are more doctors female or male in your country?
  + Are more nurses female or male in your country?
  + Are more professional musicians female or male in your country?
  + Are more teachers female or male in your country?
  + Are more truck drivers female or male in your country?
  + Are men and women equal in ability and intelligence?
  + What things can either men or women do that the other cannot do and why?
  + What type of clothing do men wear?
  + What type of clothing do women wear?
  + Can men wear women's clothing or can women wear men's clothing? Why or why not?
  + Can men wear pink clothes?
  + Is it OK for men to cry?
  + Is it OK for women to cry?
  + What do people think of men or women crying?
  + What would people think of a man who backs down from a fight?
  + What would people think of two women involved in a fist fight?
  + Is it OK for men to appear sad?
  + Is it OK for women to appear angry?
  + Is it OK for men to appear weak?
  + Is it common for women and men to take part in sporting activities? Do they take part in the same type of sporting activities?
  + In you home, who does the cooking, cleaning and household chores?
  + Is it possible for women to join the army in your country?
  + Is it compulsory for men and women to join the army in your country?
  + Do women swear a lot?
  + Are there more male or female managers and executives? Why do you think this is?
  + What jobs do men do and women not do in your country?
  + Who is regarded as the head of the family?
  + Should boys and girls be brought up differently?
  + Should boys and girls be treated differently on the part of the parents?
  + What would happen if your parents changed their place for one day?
  + How would the world look like without men?
  + How would the world look like without women?
  + When a woman and a man are together, who does most of the talking? What makes you think so?
  + Can a man and a woman be only friends?
  + Do men/men friendships differ from women/men or women/women friendships? How?
  + Who do you think has life easier, girls or guys? Why?

**Conversation Questions  
Gestures**.

* What are some gestures you know?
* What are some good gestures in your country?
* What are some insulting gestures in your country?
* Can you think of some gestures that have different meanings in different countries?
* Has your teacher ever used a hand and/or facial gesture that was o.k. in the teacher's country but an insult in your country? If so, did you tell the teacher so it would not happen again?
* What are some bad gestures that you have seen in Western films but you don't know the meaning of?
* What are some gestures that you used when you were a child that you don't use anymore?
* What are some gestures that you didn't learn until you were a teenager or a young adult?
* What are some gestures you know that relate to the sporting world?

**Conversation Questions  
Getting to Know Each Other**

* Do you have any pets?
* What was the last book you read?
* Do you like to cook?
* What's your favorite food?
* Are you good at cooking/swimming/etc?
* Are you married or single?
* Do you have brothers and sisters?
  + Are they older or younger than you?
* Do you like baseball?
* Do you live alone?
* Do you live in a house or an apartment?
* Have you ever lived in another country?
* Have you ever met a famous person?
* How do you spend your free time?
* How long have you been studying English?
* How old are you?
* How tall are you?
* Tell me about a favorite event of your adulthood.
* Tell me about a favorite event of your childhood.
* What are your hobbies?
* What two things could you not do when you were.....?
* What countries have you visited?
* What country are you from?
* What do you do on Sundays?
* What do you do? What's your job?
* What do you like to do in your free time?
* What hobbies do you have?
* What is the nearest bus stop or train station to your house?
* What is your motto?
* What is your religion? (Perhaps not a good question in some situations.)
* What kind of food do you like?
* What kind of people do you like?
* What kind of people do you not like?
* What languages do you speak?
* What two things could you not do when you were a child, but you can do now?
* What's something you do well?
* What's your address?
* What's your father like?
* What's your mother like?
* What's your name?
* What's your phone number?
* What's your telephone number?
* When did you start to study English?
* Where are you from?
* Where do you live?
* Where do you live? How long have you lived there?
* Where were you born?
* Which sports do you like?
* Who do you live with?
* Who do you respect the most?
* Who has had the most influence in your life?
* Why did you decide to take this course?
* Why do you want to learn English?
* Would you like to be famous?
* What do you think you will be doing five years from now?
  + Where do you think you'll be living five years from now?
* What is your goal in life?
* Are you a 'morning' or 'night' person?
* When do you feel best? In the morning, afternoon, or evening?
* How many cities have you lived in?
* What jobs have you done?
* Which do you prefer, sunrises or sunsets?
* What could you do as a child that you can't do now?
* Who is your next door neighbor in your home country?
  + What is he or she like?
  + Did you get along with each other?
* What is the best memory of our country that you will take back home with you?
* What is the worst memory of our country?
* How many times did you move as a child?
* Are you a task oriented person or a people oriented person?
* What is the profile of the wife/husband you would meet?
  + What kind of woman/man would you like to marry?

**Conversation Questions  
Getting to Know Each Other**

* Do you have any pets?
* What was the last book you read?
* Do you like to cook?
* What's your favorite food?
* Are you good at cooking/swimming/etc?
* Are you married or single?
* Do you have brothers and sisters?
  + Are they older or younger than you?
* Do you like baseball?
* Do you live alone?
* Do you live in a house or an apartment?
* Have you ever lived in another country?
* Have you ever met a famous person?
* How do you spend your free time?
* How long have you been studying English?
* How old are you?
* How tall are you?
* Tell me about a favorite event of your adulthood.
* Tell me about a favorite event of your childhood.
* What are your hobbies?
* What two things could you not do when you were.....?
* What countries have you visited?
* What country are you from?
* What do you do on Sundays?
* What do you do? What's your job?
* What do you like to do in your free time?
* What hobbies do you have?
* What is the nearest bus stop or train station to your house?
* What is your motto?
* What is your religion? (Perhaps not a good question in some situations.)
* What kind of food do you like?
* What kind of people do you like?
* What kind of people do you not like?
* What languages do you speak?
* What two things could you not do when you were a child, but you can do now?
* What's something you do well?
* What's your address?
* What's your father like?
* What's your mother like?
* What's your name?
* What's your phone number?
* What's your telephone number?
* When did you start to study English?
* Where are you from?
* Where do you live?
* Where do you live? How long have you lived there?
* Where were you born?
* Which sports do you like?
* Who do you live with?
* Who do you respect the most?
* Who has had the most influence in your life?
* Why did you decide to take this course?
* Why do you want to learn English?
* Would you like to be famous?
* What do you think you will be doing five years from now?
  + Where do you think you'll be living five years from now?
* What is your goal in life?
* Are you a 'morning' or 'night' person?
* When do you feel best? In the morning, afternoon, or evening?
* How many cities have you lived in?
* What jobs have you done?
* Which do you prefer, sunrises or sunsets?
* What could you do as a child that you can't do now?
* Who is your next door neighbor in your home country?
  + What is he or she like?
  + Did you get along with each other?
* What is the best memory of our country that you will take back home with you?
* What is the worst memory of our country?
* How many times did you move as a child?
* Are you a task oriented person or a people oriented person?
* What is the profile of the wife/husband you would meet?
  + What kind of woman/man would you like to marry?

**Conversation Questions  
Gossip and Rumors**

* Do you like to gossip?
* Do your friends often gossip about you?
* Why do you think people like to listen to gossip ?
* Why do people like to gossip about the rich and famous?
* What are the most common themes for gossip?
* What are some of the things you like to gossip about?
* What are some ways which gossip can be harmful?
* Do you think gossip can be used for something good?
* Why is it considered that women gossip more then men?
* Where are some places where people like to gossip?
* Which newspapers can be called gossip newspapers?
  + Do you like to read gossip newspapers?
  + What is your attitude to gossip newspapers?
  + Have you ever told a rumor that got someone in trouble?
  + Has someone ever spread a rumor about you?
  + Has spreading rumors ever got you in trouble?
  + Do you think that a friend who gossips or starts rumours will ever gossip or start a rumour about you?
  + How would you try to resolve the problem, if you had got into trouble through gossiping?
  + Has answering these questions changed your attitude towards gossip?
  + If you discovered that someone had been gossiping about you, would you confront them?
  + If no-one at your high school had ever gossiped, how would it have been different?
  + If you heard some harmful gossip about someone you knew, what would you do?

**Conversation Questions  
Habits**

* Do you have any bad habits?
* Do you bite your nails?
* Do you over sleep? Do you sleep on the sofa?
* Do you sleep in your clothes?
* Do you eat late at night?
* What are some good habits to have?
* What are healthy eating habits?
* What are bad eating habits?
* What are good study habits?
* What are bad study habits?
* Where do we learn our habits?
* What are some of your bad habits?
* Do children learn bad habits at school or at home?
* Do you smoke?
* Do you drink alcohol?
* Do you spit on the street?
* Do you throw rubbish on the street?
* Do you smoke at public places?
* Do you sleep in class?
* Are you extremely lazy?
* Do you cut people off in the middle of their stories and conversations?
* Does your mother or father have any bad habits?
* Is it easy or difficult to get rid of a bad habit?
* Do other people's bad habits get on your nerves?
* Have you been successful in getting rid of a bad habit?
* Is always coming late a bad habit?
* What bad habits bother you the most?
* What good habits do you most admire?
* What unusual habits do you observe in your family members? Do they bother you?
* How can you develop a good habit?

**Conversation Questions  
Happiness**

* Are you a happy person?
* What is happiness for you?
* What do you think is the color for happiness?
* Do you think that happiness lies within you? Or does it depend upon other people and external things?
* Can money buy happiness?
* Is happiness a state of mind?
* What makes you feel happy?
* What are the three most important things for you to be happy?
* Is happiness relative, that is, does it have a different meaning for each person?

**Conversation Questions  
Have You Ever ...**

* Have you ever appreciated a sunset?
  + Were you alone or with someone special?
* Have you ever been a guest at a surprise party?
  + Has anyone ever thrown a surprise party for you?
* Have you ever been in a fist fight?
* Have you ever been on TV?
* Have you ever been to a theatre? (Also spelling "theater.")
* Have you ever broken a bone?
* Have you ever broken up with someone?
* Have you ever called your boyfriend or girlfriend by the wrong name?
* Have you ever called your girlfriend/boyfriend "Honey?"
* Have you ever changed your appearance a lot in a short time? (For example, hair style, hair color or weight)
* Have you ever cheated on an exam?
* Have you ever cried in public and embarrassed yourself?
  + Have you ever cried for no reason and felt good because of it?
* Have you ever dated someone from another race, culture or religion?
  + Have you ever dated someone who didn't like you?
  + Have you ever dated a relative by accident?
* Have you ever done something silly that you wish you had not done?
* Have you ever driven a sports car?
  + Have you ever driven a truck?
* Have you ever eaten in a restaurant and realized you have no money with you?
* Have you ever finished eating in a restaurant, and you realized you forgot your wallet?
* Have you ever eaten something that you thought you wouldn't like, but found out that you actually liked it?
* Have you ever eaten frog legs?
  + Have you ever eaten horse meat?
  + Have you ever eaten French food? (Substitute other countries' food, too.)
* Have you ever fallen asleep and forgotten where you were?
* Have you ever fallen asleep while taking a bath?
* Have you ever fallen down the stairs?
* Have you ever fallen in love at first sight?
* Have you ever fallen or stumbled in front of others.
* Have you ever forgotten your mother's birthday?
  + ... father's
  + ... girlfriend's
  + ... boyfriend's
  + ... husband's
  + ... wife's
* Have you ever given a false excuse to get out of something you didn't want to do? If so, tell us about it.
* Have you ever given a ring (or other jewelry) to your girlfriend/boyfriend?
* Have you ever gone mountain climbing?
* Have you ever gone skiing?
* Have you ever gone surfing?
* Have you ever dreamt of a ghost being in your bedroom and then waking up and finding yourself looling around for the ghost?
* Have you ever gone to greet a friend or family member then noticed it was someone else?
* Have you ever gotten sunburnt at the tanning saloon and gone back the next day?
* Have you ever had a Deja Vu experience?
* Have you ever made cheesecake?
  + Have you ever made Chinese food?
  + Have you ever baked bread?
* Have you ever met a celebrity?
* Have you ever played a joke on one of your teachers?
  + How about one of your classmates?
* Have you ever raised your hand to answer a question, then forgot what you were going to say?
* Have you ever received a present that you really hated?
  + What was it?
  + Why did you hate it?
  + Who gave it to you?
* Have you ever regretted saying I love you?
* Have you ever ridden a horse?
* Have you ever ridden a motorcycle?
* Have you ever said yes when you meant no?

If so, tell us about it.

* Have you ever slept in a cave?
* Have you ever slept in a tent?
* Have you ever swam in the ocean?
* Have you ever talked to a famous person?
  + Who was the person?
  + How long did you talk?
  + What did you talk about?
* Have you ever thought of something funny and started laughing out loud in the presence of others?
* Have you ever told a big lie to someone you love?
* Have you ever tried in-line skating?
* Have you ever tried riding a skateboard?
* Have you ever guessed someone's age wrong (younger or older)? How did the person respond?
* Have you ever been in the shower when there was an earthquake?
* Have you ever ripped off your pants while dancing?
* Have you ever kissed somebody by mistake?
* Have you ever laughed until tears came from your eyes?
* Have you ever fallen asleep while talking on the phone?
* Have you ever sprained your ankle/wrist? How did it happen?
* Have you ever written an article for a newspaper?
  + If so, when was it and what was the article about?
* Have you ever seen a car accident?
* Have you ever called your school's principal?
* Have you ever received more than 10 cards on Valentines day?
* Have you ever been on the radio or television?
* Have you ever ridden on an ostrich? A camel? A cow?
* Have you ever shaken hands with a monkey?
* Have you ever received a love letter?
* Have you ever seen a tornado?
* Have you ever had an electricity blackout while taking a shower?
* Have you ever picked you're nose in public?
* Have you ever seen a car accident?
* Have you ever called your school's principal?
* Have you ever been on the radio? T.V?
* Have you ever ridden on an ostrich?
* Have you ever shaken hands with a monkey?
* Have you ever received a love letter?
* Have you ever seen a tornado?
* Have you ever milked a cow?
* Have you ever built an igloo?
* Have you ever tried any extreme sports?
* Have you ever shot a gun at a tree or a target?
* Have you ever played an instrument in public?
* Have you ever sung in public?
* Have you ever talked "baby-talk" to your pet?
* Have you ever given special nicknames to your pet that were completely different than their first given name?
* Have you ever kept special treats for your pet?
* Have you ever kept a special blanket or bed for your pet to sleep on?
* Have you ever let your pet sleep in or on your bed with you?
* Have you ever hitchhiked?
* Have you ever fainted?
* Have you ever walked into a lamppost?
* Have you ever wondered why some people want to be alone but never seem to be lonely? Why do you think this is so?
* Have you ever tried to eat food without first spitting out your chewing gum?
* Have you ever saved a piece of chewed chewing gum and started chewing it again later?
* Have you ever called a 'he' she or a 'she' a 'he?' What was the response?
* Have you ever called a women sir or a Man "ma'am?"
* Have you ever asked a woman when she was "due" and she wasn't even pregnant?

**Conversation Questions  
Health**

* Are you a member of a health spa/gym?
* Are you afraid of needles?
* Are you healthy?
* Are your parents healthy?
* Do think that you need to lose weight?
* Do you always eat healthy food?
  + (Is your diet healthy?)
* Do you bruise easily?
* Do you catch a cold more than once a year?
* Do you consider alcohol a drug?
* Do you drink a lot?
* Do you eat a lot of vegetables?
* Do you eat lots of fruit?
* Do you eat vegetables every day?
* Do you ever get headaches? Do you know anyone who suffers from migraine headaches?
* Do you ever read magazines or news articles about health? If yes, what subject(s) do you find the most interesting?
* Do you exercise?
  + What kind of exercise do you do?
  + How often do you exercise?
* Do you go for regular medical check-ups?
* Do you go to the dentist's twice a year?
* Do you have a lot of stress?
* Do you normally go one doctor in particular or any available doctor?
* Do you have any allergies?
* Do you have any scars?
* Do you know anyone who suffers from backaches?
* Do you know anyone with false teeth?
* Do you often eat fast food?
* Do you smoke?
  + If so, do you smoke more than two cigarettes a day?
  + Do you think smoking is not bad for your health?
* Do you take medicine when you are sick?
* Do you take vitamins or mineral supplements?
* Do you take vitamins?
* Do you think it is unhealthy to keep a cat in your home?
* Do you think nuclear power is safe?
* Do you think pets are good for a person's health
* Do you think that the tobacco companies should be held reasonably responsible for a person's addiction to nicotine?
* Do you think you are overweight?
* Do you think you will live until a ripe old age? Why or why not?
* Do you think you would be a good surgeon? Why or why not?
* Do you use an alarm clock to wake up?
* Do you usually get enough sleep?
* Do you watch your weight? What foods do you think are healthy?
* Have you ever been hospitalized?
  + (Have you ever been in the hospital?)
* Have you ever been to an acupuncturist? What do you think of acupuncture?
* Have you ever broken a bone?
* Have you ever burned yourself with hot water?
* Have you ever donated blood?
* Have you ever gotten a black eye?
* Have you ever had braces on your teeth?
* Have you ever had stitches?
* Have you ever sprained your ankle?
* Have you ever taken a sleeping pill to get to sleep?
* How can you reduce stress in your life?
* How have you been feeling lately?
* How many hours of sleep do you get a night?
* How many hours of sleep do you usually get?
* How often do you eat junk food?
  + What kinds of junk food do you eat?
* How often do you exercise?
* How often do you get a cold?
  + (How often do you catch a cold?)
* How often do you get sick in one year?
* How often do you go to the doctor's?
* How often is garbage collected in your neighborhood?
* How would you recommend treating a cold?
* If a company sells the public a product they know to be harmful or addictive, should they be held responsible for the use of that product even if the government approves it?
* If you smoke, how old were you when you started smoking?
* If you were President of Korea, what would you do to improve Koreans' health?
* Should smoking in restaurants be banned?
* What are some things people can do to keep healthy?
* What are some things that cause stress?
* What are some ways to deal with stress?
* What are some ways you know that you can personally keep yourself healthy?
* What disease frightens you the most? Why?
* What do you do to stay healthy?
  + (What are some things you do to keep healthy?)
* What do you do, if you can't get to sleep?
* What do you think about abortion? Why do some people support it and others are against it?
* What do you think about getting old?
* What do you think is the most serious health problem in Korea?
* What do you think of cosmetic surgery? Do you know anyone who has had cosmetic surgery? Would you ever consider having cosmetic surgery?
* What drinks to you think are healthy? What drinks do you think are unhealthy?
* What foods to you think are healthy? What foods do you think are unhealthy?
* What is the best way to find a doctor, if you're new in the area?
* What is the best way to stop smoking?
* What is the most horrible accident you have ever had?
* What is the average age of people in your country
* What kind of pollution is the most risky?
* What time did you go to bed when you were a child?
* What's the best way to stop smoking?
* What's the highest temperature you've ever had?
* What's your blood type?
* When did you last take a bath?
* When was the last time you went to a dentist?
* When was the last time you went to a doctor?
* When was the last time you went to a hospital?
* When was the last time you were sick?
* When you were in high school, how many days of school did you miss each year because of sickness?
* Who do you think is responsible for the care of your health--you yourself, your parents, or your doctor and medical people?
* Who is the healthiest person in your family? Who is the least healthy?
* Why do people smoke?
* Would you consider donating your organs after your death?
* What is the health service like in your country?
* What do you think of the health service in this country?
* How can the health service be improved?
* Have you been to hospital since you arrived here?
* What do you know about the SARS virus?
  + What do you know about AIDS?
  + What do you know about the common cold?
* What is alternative medicine?
  + Have you ever practiced alternative medicine?
* What treatments or remedies do you follow when you have a cold?
* which kind of medicine do you prefer to take when you are sick?

**Conversation Questions  
Home**

* Are there any parks near your home?
* Describe each room of your home.
* Do you like the place where you are living? Why or why not?
* Do you like to keep pets in your home?
* How are homes different in your home country and in this country?
* How have you changed your home since you've started living there?
* How long have you lived where you are living now?
* How many different homes have you lived in?
  + Which one did you like the best? Why?
  + Which one did you like the least? Why?
* How many rooms are there in your house?
* How much is your rent? (Some people may not consider this to be a polite question.)
* If you could change anything about your present home, what would it be?
* Is your home in a convenient location?
* What changes would you like to make to your home?
* What do you like about your home? What don't you like?
* What do you think is the worst color for a living room?
* What is in your bedroom?
* What things in your home couldn't you live without?
* What things in your house could you easily live without?
* What's your favorite room? Why?
* Where would your dream home be?
  + What would it be like inside and out?
* Which room do you spend the least time in?
* Which room do you spend the most time in?
* Who are your neighbors?
  + Do you get along well with your neighbors?
  + How well do you know them?
  + What have you done with your neighbors?
* Who lives with you? / Who do you live with?
* Would you prefer to live in a house or an apartment? Why?
* Is every house a home?
* What makes 'a house' into 'a home'?
* Have you ever been homesick?have you changed anything in your house recently? If so, what was that?
* What would you like to change in your house?
* What would you like to change in your house?
* What is the color of your front door?
* What kind of housing would you prefer?
* What is your dream house?
* What is your favorite room in your house? Why?
* What strange materials do you know of that have been used to make houses?
* Could you build a house for yourself? How would you do it? (you cannot have a builder help you)
* How could you live without electricity? Could you make your own electricity? How?
* How can houses be made more environmentally friendly?
* Describe how you go about buying a house in your country. Can you borrow money from a bank? Is it easy to buy and sell houses?
* What would be important to consider when designing a city? Was your city planned? Describe a perfect city
* Draw/describe your dream house (money is no problem) where, materials, design, interior, landscaping etc
* Imagine you have arrived in a country where they don't speak your language. You have no money or friends there. What would you do for accommodation?
* Give some reasons why people become homeless.
* What problems do home owners have? What can they do about them?
* Is it better to rent or buy? Give reasons for your answer.
* What do you think houses in the future will be like?
* How important is security? How do you make a house secure?
* Make a list of the 10 most important things you would look for when choosing a house to live in.
* Some people say houses are too much like boxes or cages. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
* What are the advantages and disadvantages of homestay/boarding?
* List alternatives to a house or apartment. (e.g. igloo)
  + What are the advantages and disadvantages of these alternatives? Which alternative would you prefer to live in?

## Conversation Questions Honesty and Truthfulness

### Honesty

* What is the definition of honesty?
* What do we mean when we say a person is honest?
* Why is honesty important?
* Why is honesty so difficult at times?
* When is honesty difficult?
* What is the opposite of honesty?
* Why is it good to be honest?
* Why is dishonesty not good?
* Is there a difference between honesty and truthfulness?
* Is there a different between dishonesty and lying?
* When have you been honest?
* When have you been dishonest?
* At what times do you appreciate people being honest with you?
* When have you had times when people have been dishonest with you?
* How do feel when you have been dishonest with someone?
* How do you feel when someone has been dishonest with you?
* Who have you been honest with?
* How can you be honest and not hurt someone?
* Is it ever all right to give only a partial truth?
* When might it be all right to give only a partial truth?
* When might it be kind more to be completely honest with someone?
* Are there people that you do not trust?
* How can you tell when people are being dishonest with you?
* How can people tell if you have been dishonest with them?
* What kind of problems does dishonesty cause?
* What are some common situations when people are sometimes dishonest?
* Is dishonesty every justifiable?

### Truthfulness

* What is truthfulness?
* What do we mean when we say that a person if truthful?
* Why is it important to be truthful?
* Are you always truthful?
* What problems do you encourter when you are not truthful?
* How can you tell when people are being truthful with you?
* How do people act when they are untruthful?
* How do you feel when people have been untruthful with you?
* How do you feel when you have been untruthful to others?
* What is a half truth?
* When have you told a half truth?
* Is a half truth really being truthful?
* What is a misleading truth?
* When have you heard a misleading truth?
* What professions are sometimes accused of giving misleading or half-truths?
* How can you tell when someone is not telling you the whole truth?
* What are some situations when telling a partial truth might be OK?
* When are times when it might be kinder to tell a partial truth to someone?
* What is the different between telling a partial truth and lying?
* How do you know when to trust someone?

**Conversation Questions  
Immigration**

* Why do people immigrate to other countries?
* What is the reason you moved out of your country to move here?
* Is immigration from one country to another a problem? In what ways do you see it as a problem?
* Do you know any immigrants?
* Do you think that immigrants are treated well in in most countries?
* Do you think there is a relation between immigration and crime?
* Should any government limit the number of immigrants entering the country? What would be a good number?
* Is local culture threatened by immigration?
* How far should immigrants retain their culture?
* Should immigrants have the same rights as native citizens?
* Is there a difference between political and economic immigration?
* Should immigrants have the right to vote? In which elections?
* What should be done with the illegal immigrants entering a country?
* Should the country of origin of illegal immigrants be held responsible?
* Do immigrants have a good or bad reputation in your part of the country?
* Should students be allowed to wear clothes with cultural or religious symbolism at school?
* Do you think immigrants are treated with more suspicion now than they were a year ago?
* Do you know anyone that is married to an immigrant?
* Do you know any people who have emigrated from your country?
* Would you ever think of emigrating?
* Why would you think of emigrating?
* What would be some of the issues that would concern you about emigrating?
* Are there a lot of immigrants in your community?
* Do immigrants in your community isolate themselves into a certain area?
* Should immigrants be required to learn the local language?
* How would you help an immigrant learn the local language?
* How would you encourage children of immigrants to become bilinqual by maintaining the original language and becoming fluent in the local language?
* Should immigrants be educated in their original language or the local language?
* To what extent should official documents be written in several languages to accommodate immigrants?
* Are immigration regulations too strict? In what way should they be changed?
* How long should immigrants be required to live in the new country before they can become naturalized?
* What should be the requirements for naturalization?
* How does an immigrant become a citizen in your country?
* How does immigration affect the economic situation in your community?
* To what extent has the culture of your community become richer by immigrants?
* How is your community incorporating immigrants into the life of the community?

**Conversation Questions  
Languages**

* What language is spoken the most in your country?
* Do you have a second language in your country?
* How many languages do you speak fluently?
* Does your language have words adopted from English?
* Is English important for an individual in your country?
* Why are you studying English?
* What language you like speaking in?
* What language do you least like speaking in?
* What's your favourite language?
* What's your least favourite language?
* What's the language the people mostly speak in these countries (native language):
  + Brazil?
  + Mexico?
  + Switzerland?
  + Australia?
  + Canada?
* What's the strangest language have you ever head?
* Do you wish your country has another language instead of the present one?
* Do you have pen-friend? If yes, what languages do they speak?
* Think a bit...mention a language which isn't used anymore? (it begins with an ' L' )
* What language do the neighbouring countries of where you live speak?
* What would you do if you had to travel to a country where it's people don't know how to speak neither your language nor English?

**Conversation Questions  
Likes and Dislikes**

* What kind of music do you like?
* Who are your favorite performers or bands?
* Do you like music or musicians from other countries as well? If so, who or what kind?
* What kinds of music don¡¯t you like?
* Name some singers or groups that you dislike.
* Do you like to watch TV?
* Do you like movies?
* Do you like to watch TV?
* What are your favorite kinds of programs or shows?
* What are your all-time favorite TV programs?
* Who are your favorite actors?
* Do you like programs or shows from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
* Do you like actors from other countries as well? If so, who?
* What kinds of programs or which actors don¡¯t you like?
* Do you like movies?
* What are your favorite kinds of movies?
* What are your all-time favorite movies?
* Who are your favorite actors?
* Do you like movies from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
* Do you like actors from other countries as well? If so, who?
* What kinds of movies or which actors don¡¯t you like?
* Do you like sports?
* What are your favorite kinds of sports?
* Who are your favorite athletes?
* Do you like sports from other countries as well? If so, what kind?
* Do you like athletes from other countries as well? If so, who?
* Which athletes don't you like?
* Do you like books?
* What are your favorite kinds of books?
* What are your favorite titles?
* Who are your favorite authors?

**Conversation Questions  
Love, Dating & Marriage**

* About how many guests attended your wedding?
  + How many guests would you invite to your wedding?
* At what age do most people in your country get married?
* At what age do you want to get married?
  + At what age did you get married?
* Describe a perfect date.
* Describe the appearance of the person you would like to date?
* Describe the character of the person you would like to date?
* Do women usually work after getting married in your country?
* Do you "go Dutch" when dating?
* Do you know what it means to 'go Dutch'?
* Is it usual for people in your country to 'go Dutch' if you go out together?
* Do older girls/boys have a problem dating younger girls/boys?
  + Do younger girls/boys have a problem dating older girls/boys?
* Do you believe in love at first sight?
  + Do you think some people know that they will fall in love with someone the first time they meet?
* Do you know what a 'blind date' is?
* Have you ever been on a blind date?
* Did you ever arrange a blind date?
* Do you drive or take the train when dating?
* Do you get along with your in-laws?
* Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?
  + Where did you meet your him/her?
  + What does he/she look like?
* Do you know anyone who has had an arranged marriage?
* Do you know someone who has gotten a divorce?
* Do you know the difference between love and like?
  + Can you still love your partner and not like him/her?
* Do you think a boy should pay for everything on a date?
* Do you think arranged marriages are a good idea? Why or why not?
  + What is your opinion of arranged marriages?
* Do you think fairy tales influence our choice of a partner?
* Do you think getting married means giving up freedom?
* Do you think if you get married that you will change?
* Do you think it is better to be single or to be married?
* Do you think it is good to get married?
* Do you think it is okay for a couple to live together before getting married? Why or Why not?
* Do you think it is okay to marry someone of a different race?
* Do you think it is okay to marry someone with a different religion?
* Do you think it's OK for a man to have two wives?
* Do you think it's OK for a wife to have two husbands?
* Do you think it's okay for a man to have a mistress?
* Do you think it's okay for a man to hit his wife?
* Do you think love is necessary to have a good marriage?
* Do you think marriage is necessary?
* Do you think marriages based on love are more successful than arranged marriages?
* Do you think marriage is very stressful for women? How about for men?
* Do you think people change after getting married?
* Do you think religion influences marriage? If so, in what ways?
* Do you think that all adults should be married?
* Do you think that you can you find eternal love through the Internet?
* Do you want a husband (or wife) who is older, younger or the same age as you?
* Do you want to have children?
  + If so, how many?
* Have you ever been to a school dance?
* Have you ever had a crush on someone?
* Have you ever hated loving someone?
* Have your parents ever disapproved of any of your relationships?
* How long do you think couples should know each other before they get married?
* How many children would you like to have?
* How often would you like to go out on dates?
* How old were you when you had your first boyfriend or girlfriend?
* How old were you when you went on your first date?
  + Where did you go?
  + What did you do?
  + Who did you go with?
* How old were your parents when they got married?
* If your husband or wife has an affair what would you do?
* If your parents did not approve of a person you loved and wanted to marry, would that be a difficult situation for you? Why/Why not?
* Is going out on dates important for you?
* Is there a such thing as a perfect relationship for you?
* If you could go out with anyone, who would it be?
* If you are a man, and a woman asks you for a date, do you feel you should pay, or that the woman should pay?
* If you had to marry either a poor man whom you really loved, or a rich man whom you did not love, which would you choose?
* If you had to choose to live with someone who truly loves you but you don't love him back or to live alone for a rest of your life loving someone that doesn't love you who would you choose?
* What advice would you give to someone whose partner hates their best friend?
* What age do you think is best for getting married?
* What are some dating and marriage customs in your country?
* What are some of the main reasons people get divorced?
* What are some popular places to go on a date?
* What are some qualities that you think are important in a spouse or partner?
* What characteristics do you look for in a girlfriend or boyfriend?
* What do you consider cheating in a dating relationship?
* What do you like to talk about when on a date?
* What do you look for in a girlfriend or a boyfriend?
* What do you think most people talk about when dating?
* What do you think of people who get divorced?
  + Would you ever consider getting divorced?
* What do you think of same-sex marriages?
* What do you think of single mothers?
* What is a wedding ceremony like in your country?
* What is the best way to keep your spouse happy in the marriage?
* What kind of boy/girl do you like?
* What kind of clothes do you wear on a date?
* What kind of man do you want as a husband?
* What kind of person do you want to get married to?
* What kind of woman do you want as a wife?
* What makes a good husband/wife?
* What makes a happy marriage?
  + What do you think are some things that contribute to a successful marriage?
* What qualities are important to you in a boyfriend or girlfriend?
* What qualities in a partner are important to you?
* What was the most boring date you've ever been on?
* What was the most interesting date you've ever been on?
* What would you consider "the perfect date" for you?
* What would you do if your soon to be mother-in-law seems to hate you?
* What would your parents think if you don't get married?
* When did your parents get married?
* Where do you want to go for your honeymoon?
  + Where did you go for your honeymoon?
* Where do you want to go on your honeymoon?
* Where is a good pace to go on a date in this town?
* Where would you like to go on a date?
* Which is more important for you, your job or your marriage?
* Why do people break up with their partners?
* Will you continue working after you get married?
* Would you date someone you really liked if your parents did not like him or her?
* Would you ever marry someone who has been divorced twice?
* Would you introduce your date to your family?
* Would you live with your parents after you get married?
* Would you marry someone from another country?
* Would you marry someone ten years older than you? How about ten years younger than you?
* Would you marry someone that your parents didn't like?
* Would you marry someone who couldn't speak the same language as you speak?
* Would you mind if your boyfriend/girlfriend went out to party without you?
* Would you prefer to go out with a quiet or a talkative person?
* At what age do you think that dating should begin?
  + Do you think there is any age when a person is too old to date?
* Do you know a happily married couple?
* Can you name a famous happily married couple?
* What do you think is the most important ingredient in a good marriage?
* How long is the marriage ceremony in your country?
* Who designed the marriage covenant?
* What do you think about dating a friend's ex-girlfriend or ex-boyfriend?
* Does your first love still hold a special place in your heart? Do you believe that he or she will always have a special place in your heart?
* What qualities do you look in your partner?
* Do you think its possible to wait for the man or woman you love while he or she is in jail?
* What is your definition of love?
* Would you wait on a person you were dating for a long time if they joined the army?
  + How about if they went to prison?
* What is the best season to get married?
* Do you know anybody who has two families at the same time and supports them both?
* How many families can you have in your country?
* Are there any superstitions on making someone fall in love with you?
  + Have you heard of any successful "love potions?"
* Have you ever returned a gift to your boyfriend or girlfriend and later find out that he has given it to his/her new mate?
* Do you know of any superstitions connected with weddings?
* Would it be important for you to have a "white wedding'?
* Can you control your partner by playing games?
* Why do you think the bride's maids wear white.
* When should you introduce your boyfriend/girlfriend to your parents?--when you begin dating, after you have been together for a while, only when the relationship is serious? Why?
* Do you like to have boy friend or girl friend in your school or in your classes?
* Do you think it is right to continue seeing a person if he has not introduced you to his family yet?
* In your opinion is marriage for life?
  + Do you think when people get married it is really until death?
* How long does it take for dating to become a relationship?
* Is it important to be punctual in your first date? Why?
* Would you dress up for a first date? What clothes would you wear?
* What kind of place do you think is the ideal for a first date? Why do you think so?
* What are your country's norms or laws on displays of public affection?
* Do you think it is okay for couples to kiss in public?
* International Marriage
  + Would you marry someone of another nationality?
  + Are your parents of the same nationality?
  + What are some advantages of an international marriage?
  + What are some disadvantages?
  + Do you want to have an international marriage?
  + Do you know anyone who married someone from a different country? If yes, what is their experience like?
  + Do you think it is more difficult to marry someone from a different country?
  + How would your parents feel if you married someone from a different country?
  + Do you think that it is good for children to have parents from two different countries? Why? Why not?
  + How would you feel if your boyfriend liked to keep company with a female friend when you're not there?
  + How would you feel if your girlfriend liked to keep company with a male friend when you're not there?
* The following question may be considered offensive or inappropriate in some situations.
  + Do you think that gay people should be allowed to marry?
  + Why do you think the bride's maids wear white.
  + When should you introduce your boyfriend/girlfriend to your parents?--when you begin dating, after you have been together for a while, only when the relationship is serious? Why?

**Conversation Questions  
Manners**

* What do you think are some good manners?
* What do you think are some bad manners?
* Can you think of some good manners that are bad manners in another country?
* What are the titles of some books on manners? Have you ever read them?
* What are some good manners for using a cell phone?
* What are some good table manners?
* What are some good party manners?
* Is kissing in public good manners?
* Do you say "hi" to people even if they are strangers? Why? Why not?
* Do you listen to other's people conversations on the street?
* Do you think it is good manners to hug or kiss another person in greeting?
* Do you let people pass you when you are driving in your car? Is it considered a good manner?
* Do you honk your horn to people when you drive?
* Why are manners important?
* Do people have more manners now or in earlier times?
* Can manners affect your success in life? How?
* What's the best way to teach manners to children?
* What culture do you think is the most polite? Explain.
* What advice would you give a foreigner visiting your country who would like to show good manners?
* What things about manners in the USA do you find difficult to adjust to?
* Is there anything about manners in the USA that you prefer to manners in your country?

**Conversation Questions  
Martial Arts**

* Have you ever studied a martial art?
* Can you name any Japanese/Chinese/Korean martial arts?
* Which martial art is best in your opinion? Why?
* Do you like fighting?
* Do you often fight?
* Have you ever been in a fight? Did you win?
* Do you think its useful to study martial arts?
* Who is your favorite kung fu movie actor/actress?
* Do you like Hong Kong kung fu movies?
* What is your favorite kung fu movie?
* Do you know anything about martial arts history? What?
* Do you think its important to preserve tradition in martial arts?
* How many different kinds of kung fu have you heard of?
* Do you know how to use any traditional weapons?
* Which traditional weapon do you think is the coolest?
* How does kung fu/tae kwon do/aikido compare to western boxing?
* Do you ever watch martial arts on TV?
* Do you know any good martial arts websites?
* Are there any martial arts schools in your area?
* What's the difference between traditional kung fu and modern wushu?
* What age is best to start training in martial arts?
  + At what age do you think it is best to begin training in martial arts?
* How much should you train?
* Do you know of any interesting training methods?
* Do you know the names of the different kicks/punches/stances?
* Which martial art uniform do you like best?
* What are belts and sashes for?
* What are forms or katas for?
* What's your favorite fighting technique?
* What's the most important thing in a fight?
* What's the coolest kung fu animal style?
* What do you think "the art of fighting without fighting" (Bruce Lee) means?

**Conversation Questions  
Meeting People**

* Do you enjoy meeting new people?
* What are some good things to ask someone you just met?
* What are some things you shouldn't ask people you just met?
* Is it OK to ask a person's age in your country?
* Are you nervous when you are introduced to someone new?
* What are some ways to overcome being nervous about meeting new people?
* About how many new people do you meet a week?
* Where are some good places to meet people?
* How important are first impressions to you?
* What do you do if you forget the name of someone you've just been introduced to?
* What kind of people do you like to meet?
* Who was the last new person you met and where did you meet them?
* Have you ever experienced being completely wrong in your first impression?
* Do you usually shake hands with when you meet a new person?
* If you want to get to know people at a party would you go first to people of your own age or people of your own sex?
* What is the favourite topic for new acquantances in your country?
* If you are looking for a shallow relationship, where do you usually go to meet people?
* If you are looking for a good friend, where do you usually go to meet people?
* In your country, how do you know if you can trust a person that you meet?
* How about in the US? How do you know if you can trust a person that you meet here?

**Conversation Questions  
Memory**

* Do you have a good memory or a bad memory
* Do you usually remember things or forget things?
* Would you like to have a perfect memory? Why or why not? How would it change your life?
* Who do you know who has the best memory? Tell your group about them.
* Who do you know who has the worst memory? Tell your group about them.
* What's your earliest memory? When was it? Describe it in detail.
* What's your most vivid (clear or sharp) memory? When was it? Describe it in detail.
* Have you ever forgotten something important, like your keys or your phone? Tell your group what happened.
* Has someone you know ever forgotten something important, like their keys or their phone? Tell your group what happened.
* Have you ever walked into a room and forgotten why you went there?
* Have you ever forgotten an important date, like a birthday or an anniversary? Tell your group what happened.
* Has someone you known ever forgotten an important date, like a birthday or an anniversary? Tell your group what happened.
* As people grow older, sometimes the distant past is easier to remember than the near past. Why do you think this is? Have you ever seen examples of this? Tell your group about them.
* Are there some things or times that you will never forget? Tell your group about them.
* Are there some things or times that you wish you could forget? Tell your group about them.
* Memories make the man. What do you think this means? Give examples.
* Those who forget the past will repeat it. What do you think this means? Give examples.
* Many people find that a certain sound or smell brings back a childhood memory very strongly (such as the smell of a food that your mother often cooked when you were young).
  + Why do you think this is?
  + What has this effect on you?
  + Give examples.
* Many people find that visiting certain place brings back a childhood memory very strongly (such as the scene of an old family holiday).
  + Why do you think this is?
  + Where has this effect on you?
  + Give examples.
* If you could edit your memories, which ones would you erase and why? Which ones would you make clearer and more vivid?
* Do you have a photographic memory? Do you know anyone who has a photographic memory?

**Conversation Questions  
Money & Shopping**

Please remember that some questions about money may be considered too personal to ask anyone who is not a very close friend or a family member.

* About how much did you spend on presents last year?
* About how much do you usually spend each day?
* Are you a price conscious shopper?
* Are you good at saving money?
* Are you saving money to buy something?
  + If so, what are you planning to buy?
  + How much will it cost?
  + How much longer will you need to save before you can buy it?
* Do banks pay a higher percent of interest here or in your country?
* Do you compare prices at different stores when you shop?
* Do you enjoy shopping?
* Do you ever buy second-hand things? ("used things")
* Do you ever give money to charity?
  + How often do you give to charity?
  + How much do you give?
* Do you gamble?
* Do you give tips at a restaurant in your country? How about to taxi drivers?
* Do you haggle when you shop ?
* Do you have a credit card?
* Do you have a credit card? If so, do you have more than one?
* Do you have more than one bank account?
* Do you have to pay a sales tax in your country?
* Do you invest in the stock market?
* Do you often put money in the bank?
* Do you sometimes buy things that you don't need?
  + If so, give some examples.
* Do you sometimes give money to charities?
* Do you think that money can buy love?
* Do your parents give you an allowance? (Did your parents give....?)
  + How much? (Maybe not a good question to ask.)
  + What do you use it for?
  + How often do they give it to you?
* Have you ever been in debt? (Have you ever owed money to people?)
* Have you ever bought a lottery ticket?
* Have you ever found any money? If so, what did you do with it?
* Have you ever given money to a beggar?
* Have you ever given money to a homeless person?
* Have you ever had any money stolen from you?
* How important is money to you?
  + If you had no money, do you think you could be happy?
* How many different kinds of coins are there in your country? What are they?
* How much did you spend last week?
* How much did you spend yesterday?
* How much do you have to spend to eat a good meal at a restaurant in your country?
* How much do you spend on food each week?
* How much do you think it costs to fly to Guam?
* How much do you think it costs to stay at a hotel in London?
* How much do you usually spend each month on entertainment?
* How much do you usually spend each month on food?
* How much do you usually spend each month on transportation?
* How much does it cost to get a haircut in your country?
* How much does it cost to ride a bus in your country?
* How much is a liter of gasoline in your country?
* How much money did you make on your first job?
  + (How much money do you think you will make on your first job?)
* How much money did you spend yesterday?
  + Where did you spend it?
  + What did you spend it on?
  + Do you often spend that amount in one day?
* How much money did your parents give you for an allowance when you were ten years old?
* How much money do you have on you now? (Maybe not a polite question to ask.)
* How much money do you have with you now? (Maybe not a good question to ask.)
* How much time did you spend the last time you went shopping?
* How often do you go shopping?
* If someone gave you a lot of money, what would you do with it?
  + If someone gave you a million dollars, what would you do with it?
* Some people say that "money makes the world go around." Do you agree? Why or why not?
* What bank do you use?
* What do you need to buy next?
* What do you spend most of your money on?
* What do you spend the most money on each month?
* What do you want to buy next?
* What is something that you have bought recently that cost a lot of money?
* What is something that you have bought recently that was a good bargain?
* What is something that you have bought recently?
* What is something that you want to buy, but don't have enough money to buy.
* What is something that you want to buy, but think you never will.
* What is the average salary in your country?
* What is the most expensive thing you've ever bought?
  + How much did it cost?
* What is your opinion of discount stores?
* What kind of things do you often shop for?
* What kinds of things are you saving your money for?
* What store did you like best and what store did you like least?
* What was the last thing you bought for someone else?
* What was the last thing you bought for yourself?
  + Where did you buy it?
  + why did you buy it?
* What was the last thing you spent money on?
* What's the most expensive thing you have ever bought?
* What's the most expensive thing you've ever bought?
* What's the most money you have spend on one thing?
* What's the most money you have spent on something to eat?
* What's the most money you have spent on something to wear?
  + What did you buy?
* What's your favorite place to shop?
* What's your favorite shopping area or store?
* Where did you buy \_\_\_? (your shoes / your watch / etc.)
  + How much did you pay?
  + When did you buy it/them?
* Where do you keep your money?
* Where do you usually buy food?
* Where is your favorite shopping area?
* Which costs more, a hamburger in America or a hamburger in your country?
* Which costs more, your telephone bill or your electric bill?
* Which do you prefer, large stores or small stores?
* Which do you think is more important, love or money?
* Which store do you go to the most often?
  + Where is it?
  + Why do you like to go there?
* Who do you often go shopping with?
* Who do you spend money on?
* In a marriage, do you think one person should handle the finances, or both?
* How do you think money helps make us happy?
* Do you think money is more important than love?
* How much money do you want to earn each month?
* What qualities must a person have to make BIG money?
* Should children get an allowance (pocket money) from their parents?
* When do you get your allowance?
  + How long does it last?
  + Is it enough money?
* How do you usually spend your money? What do you usually buy?
* How much should you give to your children?
* How much do you give to your children?
* Do you ever give money to beggars on the street? Why or why not?
* Do you ever give money to charity? Why or why not?
* If you found 100,000 won (or local currency) in a bag on the street, what would you do? Keep it?
* What are you saving your money for?
  + Do you want to buy something special?
* Who takes care of the money in your house?
* When you buy something, do you "shop around" and go to many stores to compare prices?
* When you buy something, what is most important to you: price, quality, fashion trend, status/image?
* Explain these proverbs: What do they mean? Say them in other English words.
  + The best things in life are free.
  + Time is money.
  + Save your pennies for a rainy day.
  + Money talks.
  + You can't take it with you when you go.
  + Money doesn't grow on trees
* Your rich uncle just died and gave you 50,000,000 won. (or local currency)
  + How would you spend it?
  + What would you buy?
  + Would you spend it on yourself, put it in the bank or buy something for your family?
  + Would you spend it all?
* What is the most you have ever spent on a gift?
  + What was it?
  + Who did you give it to?
  + What was the occasion?
* If you had to save money, what can you do without?
  + I would stop spending money on \_\_\_.
* If you needed to earn some extra money, how would you do that?
* If you had a large amount of money, what would you do with it?
* Have you or your family ever won any money in a lottery?
* How much money would you have to win to be happy?
* Why do people often want more money, no matter how much they have got?
* Why are poor people in many cases more generous than rich people?
* What are some reasons for people being poor? Can poverty be avoided?
* How do people become rich?
* Do you think that riches can have a bad effect on a person? How?
* What do you do if you can't get the clerk's attention at the store?
* Is it easier to return items in the U.S. or in your country?
* If you can't find an item at the store, do you find a clerk and ask for help, or do you leave and go somewhere else?
* If you don't want help when the clerk asks if you need help, what do you say?
* Is it OK to bring children to the market or the department store?
* Is it bad if one person or company controls the market that it specializes in?
  + For example, is it wrong for Microsoft to control most of the operating system software in the world?
  + Do you consider companies like Microsoft and people like Bill Gates smart and shrewd?
* Some questions about Taxation.  
  In New Zealand at the moment the government is thinking of imposing a "flatulence tax" on farmers for the livestock they own, as the flatulence contributes to Ozone depletion (supposedly).
  + What is the most ridiculous tax in your country, past, or present?
  + Do you think taxes in your country are too high/low?
    - What about New Zealand Taxes? / What about taxes here?
  + What is the effect on the economy of high taxation?
  + What is the effect on the economy of low taxation?
  + What are some of the different kinds of taxes your country has?
  + If you were the ruler of your country, what would you do to change the taxation system?
    - What is the funniest tax you can think of to introduce?
  + Are you good at saving money?
  + What do you like spending money on? What don't you like spending on?
  + What would you love to buy but you can't afford?
  + What is the next "big" thing you are going to buy?
  + Have you ever given money to people who beg in the streets?
  + Do you have a credit card? How many?
  + Is it better to pay cash or by credit card?
  + What things do you pay cash for?
  + What things do you pay by credit card?
  + Do you pay your credit card on time?
  + Have you ever paid late your credit card? What happened?
  + Are credits cards a good thing?
  + Do/Did your parents give you an allowance? How much?
  + Have your parents ever given you a credit card to pay for something? What did you buy?
  + Should parents give a credit card to teenagers?
  + Have you ever lent money to someone? Who? What did he/she need the money for?
  + Have you ever borrowed money from someone? Who? What did you need the money for?
  + Who wouldn't you lend money to?
  + Do you play the lottery?
  + What kind of lottery do you play?
  + Do you play football pools?
  + Do you play slot machines?

**Conversation Questions  
Motivation**

* Have you ever tried to lose weight?
* What motivated you to start a diet?
* Is it important to motivate children?
* How do you motivate children?
* Can some people destroy your motivation?
* What is something a boss can do to motivate his workers?
* How are you best motivated?
* How do you motivate your friends?
* Have you ever tried to quit smoking?
* How do you define motivation?
* What are some of the factors of motivation?
* What part does motivation plays in effective teaching?
* What is the role of motivation for slow learners?
* What are three things that motivate you?
* Do you feel motivated when you are at school?
* Do you feel motivated when learning something new?
* How would you describe motivation?
* Does motivation affect learning?
* In what way can we help people to increase their motivation?
* Why do you study English?
* What is your proudest accomplishment so far this year?
* What is the difference between internal and external motivation?
* Do you find that motivated people are more successful than unmotivated people?
* What do you do to keep your motivation?
* Do you have an English goal?
* Is your goal specific, measurable, with a deadline?
* How do you maintain your motivation when you fail?
* Do you share goals and plans with others so that they will help you maintain your motivation and drive?

**Conversation Questions  
Movies**

* What is your all-time favorite movie?
* What is your favorite movie?
* Are there any kinds of movies you dislike?
  + If so, what kinds?
  + Why do you dislike them?
* Do you like to watch horror movies?
* Do you prefer fiction or nonfiction books? How about movies?
* Do you usually watch movies at home or at a movie theater?
* Have you ever seen the same movie more than once?
  + If yes, name it (or them).
* Have you ever seen \_\_\_? (Insert the name of a movie.)
* How often do you go to movies?
* How often do you rent videos?
* If a book has been made into a movie, which do you prefer to do first, see the movie or read the book? Why?
* What do you think of people who talk during movies at a movie theater?
* What is the best movie you have ever seen?
  + Who was in it?
  + Why did you like it?
  + Who was the director?
* What is the scariest movies you have ever seen?
  + What's the funniest?
  + What's the most romantic?
* What is the worst movie you've ever seen?
* What was the last movie you saw?
  + Was it good?
  + Who did you see it with?
* What's the best movie you've ever seen?
* Which do you like better, action movies or comedy movies?
* What movie star would you most like to meet?
* Who is your favorite actor or actress?
* What do you think of reality shows?
* Do you think that films can be educational?
* Is there a movie you could watch over and over again?
* Who's your favorite director?
* See any good movies lately?
* How much does it cost to see a movie in your country?
* Do you usually rent DVD's or videos when you rent movies?
* What's one of your favorite movies?
  + What kind of movie is it?
  + Who's in it?
  + Who directed it?
  + Why do you like it?
  + When did it come out?
  + Where was it filmed?
  + How many times have you seen it?
  + Would you recommend it? Why?
* Do you think movies have been developing technology or technology has been developing movies?
* What is the most horrible movie you have ever seen?
* What kind of movie do you like?
* How much do you spend to buy DVD movies?
* Are an adicted to watching movies?
* Do you like to see a movie many times?
* Would you like to be an actor/actress? Why or why not?
* Do you think action movies are bad for children?
* Which do you prefer to watch movies or to read books?
* How much money do you spend when you go to movies?
* What do you prefer animated movies or real movies?
* What is your favorite movie soundtrack?
* Do you think historical movies are educational?
* Do you like documentaries?
* Who is your favorite movie hero?
* What do you think about comic books movies?
* Can you remember the name of the first movie you saw that made you cry?
* What is your favorite classical movie?
* Which do you prefer, comedy movies or horror movies?
* Have you ever watched a movie twice that you disliked?
* Do you ever download bootleg movies?
* In your country what common courtesies apply when watching a movie at the cinema?
* Have you ever seen a movie in another country? Describe the experience.
* What movie ratings are enforced in your country?
* What does it mean if a movie "bombs"?
* Are movie trailers common at the cinema in your country?
* Do you like foreign films that are dubbed in your mother tongue or do you like watching the film in its original form?
* What kind of movie would you like to star in? Why?
* Do you think there should be more movies made in your country?
* What is something that you have never seen happen in a movie?
* What things happen too often in movies?
* What is the name of a boring movie you have seen. Is there a way to make it better?
* How would you make a really bad movie?
* Which movie star do you think should die today?
* Which movie star should live forever?
* Which two movie stars would you like to have for your parents?
* If a movie star wanted to marry you, would you divorce your spouse?
* If you could be a movie bad guy, which one would you be?
* Have you ever thought about what super powers you would like to have?
* Which famous person would you like to have for a best friend?
* How often would you go to the movie theater if you always had free tickets?
* Which movie has the best story ? Tell me about it.
* Which horror movie is the scariest? Why?
* If they made a movie about your life, what kind of movie would it be?
* Which actor or actress would be you in a movie about your life?
* Do you want your children to be actors or actresses?
* How would your life change if you could do TV commercials?
* How would you like to clean house for a celebrity?
* Would you let a movie crew film in your house?
* Would you like to be a movie extra?
* Do you think there is too much nudity in movies, or not enough?
* Do you think there is too much violence in movies? Does it affect children?
* Do you think a movie has to be expensive to make to become a blockbuster? Why?
* Why do some people become famous and others don't?
* Would you rather be in a movie, or be given $500.000?
* Would you like to be in a television drama?
* What kind of character would you like to play in a television drama?
* Would you be willing to be on a TV show in only your underwear

**Conversation Questions  
Music**

* About how many CDs do you have? How about MDs and tapes?
* Are you a good dancer?
* Are you a good singer?
* Can you concentrate on other things when you are listening to music?
* Can you play a musical instrument?
  + If so, what do you play?
  + How long have you been playing?
  + Are you good at it?
* Can you play any musical instruments?
* Can you play the drums?
* Can you play the guitar?
* Can you read music?
* Do you enjoy music videos?
* Do you ever listen to MP3 files on your computer?
* Do you have an expensive stereo system? (... a MD player, ... an old record player)
* Do you know the band named Metallica? If so, do you like them?
* Do you like all kinds of music?
* Do you like American rock bands?
* Do you like country music?
* Do you like heavy metal bands like Megadeth, Marilyn Manson, and so on?
* Do you like jazz?
* Do you like to listen classical music?
* Do you like to listen country music?
  + Who is your favorite country singer?
* Do you like to listen to Broadway musicals?
  + What is your favorite Broadway musical show?
* Do you like punk music?
* Do you like singing karaoke? How often do you sing karaoke?
* Do you like to dance?
* Do you like to sing karaoke?
* Do you listen to music while doing your homework?
* Do you sing while taking a bath?
* Do you think there is a relationship between drugs and music? How about violence and music?
* Do you think your favorite music twenty years from now will be the same as it is today?
* Do you watch music shows on TV? If so, what do you watch?
* Does you mother play the piano?
* Have you ever been to a concert?
  + Have you ever been to a rock concert?
  + Have you ever been to an orchestra concert?
* Have you ever taken part in a singing competition?
* How does music make you feel?
* How many CD's do you have?
* How much time do you spend listening to music?
* How often do you listen to music? (...to classical music, ... to jazz, ...)
* How often do you listen to the radio?
* If you could play any musical instrument, what would it be?
* If you could start a band, what type of music would you play? Why?
* If you were a song, what song would you be and why?
* Is live music popular in your country?
* Is there any kind of music that you hate?
* Should music lyrics be rated similar to the way movies are rated?
* What are some concerts you have been to?
* What are some special or traditional musical instruments in your country?
* What do you think the world would be like without music?
* What do you think of manufactured bands? Can you name any?
* What is one of your favorite songs?
  + Why do you like it?
  + When did you first hear it?
  + Who sings it?
* What is your favorite karaoke song to sing?
* What is your favorite kind of music?
* What kind of music do you like?
* What kind of music do you listen to to cheer you up?
* What kind of music do you usually listen to?
* What kind of music do your parents listen to?
* What kind of music you like the most?
* What kind of songs do you like to sing?
* What kinds of music do people listen to in your country?
* What kinds of music do you dislike?
* What musicians did you like when you were in junior high school? How about high school?
* What radio station do you usually listen to?
* What was the last CD you bought?
* What was the last concert you went to?
* What was your favorite music five years ago? 10 years ago? How have your musical tastes changed?
* When was the last time you went dancing?
* When was the last time you went to a concert?
* Where do you usually listen to music?
* Which do you prefer, songs in English or songs in your own language?
* Who is your favorite singer or group?
* Who is your favorite singer?
* Why do you think music is important and how does it affect different people?
* Why is music so important to people and culture?
* Is the image of the group or singer more important than the music?
* Can you think of examples of music calming people or increasing their efficiency?
* Do you mind singing to other people? (Another wording: ...singing in front of people?)
  + If you don't mind then how large an audience would be too many?
* While listening to the radio, do you ever want to sing the song that is being played?
* Why do you think some people believe opera singers should be fat?
* Do you ever download MP3 files from the Internet?
* Do you prefer rock music or romantic music?
* Do you think music can heal sick people?
* Do you think that animals can enjoy music? How do you know?
* Do you think that music can help make world peace? How?
* How important do you think a good music teacher is to mastering an instrument?
* What do you think the next piece of music technology will be, after digital technology?
* If you could invent a new instrument, what would it sound like?
* Do you think the use of drugs by some musicians increases their artistic creativity?
* Who is your favorite composer?
* Did you go to the symphony when you were a child?
* Do your brothers and sisters also love classical music?
* What makes a song popular for you, the lyrics of the song or the melody?

**Conversation Questions  
Names**

* What's the most beautiful girl's name you've heard?
* What's the best boy's name you've heard?
* How did your parents choose your name?
* Are you happy with your name?
  + If not, why not?
* What are some of the most common names for boys and girls in your country?
* What are some really unusual names you've heard?
* Are there any names you absolutely hate?
  + If so, what are they?
  + Why do you hate them?
* Do you think names shape our personality? To what degree?
* Does your name have a meaning?
  + If so, what does it mean?
* Do you have a middle name?
  + What is it?
  + If you have multiple middle names, what are they?
* In your culture, when you introduce yourself, does the last name come first or the first name?
  + Other wordings: ... does the surname come first? / ... does your family name come first?
* Do you have a nickname?
  + If so, what is it?
  + How did you get it?
  + Do you like it?
  + What are some interesting nicknames that you have heard?
* How many letters are in your name?
  + How many syllables are in your name?
  + Does your first name have the same number of syllables as your last name?
  + How many duplicate letters are in your name?
* What do you think of people who name their children after months, seasons or days of the week?
  + What do you think of parents who make up unique names for their children?
* Some parents give their children names in alphabetical order. Do you think this is a good idea?
* What was the name of your first girlfriend or boyfriend?
  + Have you ever dated two different people with the same first name?
* What are some titles you can think of? (e.g. Mr., Mrs., Professor, Duke etc.)
* Do you think it is okay to give pets human names?
  + What is the most popular name for a dog in your country?
  + How about cats?
* Do you know the names of some famous race horses? If so, please name a few.
* Can you name some famous world leaders?
  + Can you name some famous composers?
  + Can you name some famous artists?
  + Can you name some Western foods?
  + Can you name some Eastern foods?
  + Can you name some Middle-Eastern foods?
  + Can you name some cars?
  + What are some names of famous companies you know?
* What's the name of your favorite singer?
  + What's the name of your favorite character from a story you've read
  + What's the name of your favorite writer?
  + What's the name of your favorite novel?
  + What's the name of your favorite restaurant?
  + What's the name of your favorite television show?
  + What's the name of your favorite movie?
* What's your name?
* Do you know the meaning of your name? If yes, what does it mean?
  + What does your name mean?
* Have ever changed your name?
* Do you have names in two different languages? (ex. a Chinese name and an English name )? If not, would you like to?
* Do women change their name after marriage in your country or keep their maiden name?
* Can you name some notorious people or criminals ?
* Is it ever appropriate to "call someone names"? When?
* Can you name the seven continents?
  + How many U.S. state names do you know?
  + How many Canadian province names do you know?
* Do you believe some names or words have magical qualities?
* Do people in your country predict the future according to names?
* If you could change your name would you? What would it be? Why this name?
* Do you remember any kids whose names other kids in school made fun of? Why? What were their names?
* Are you named after anyone in your family?
* Do you ever feel pressure to live up to your name?
* Can your name mean anything funny in your language?
* Have you ever known a boy that has a "girl's name" or a boy that had a "girl's name"?
* Do you wish your name was less common, or more unusual?

**Conversation Questions  
Personality**

* What are some characteristics of your personality?
* What makes you happy?
* What are some things that make you angry?
* Are you happy with your personality?
* Would you like to be different?
* Are you a determined person? Are you a stubborn person?
* Are you shy ? In which occasions are you shy?
* Do you consider yourself selfish ? Why?
* Is your personality suited to your job?
* In what way has your personality changed? Why has it changed??
* Are you more introverted (focused on your inner world) or more extraverted (focused on other people and the outer world)?
* Do you think you can change a major characteristic of your personality if you try?
* Do you think you have an unusual personality? Why?
* If you could change any aspect of your personality, what would it be?
* What sort of things would you do to amuse yourself during a car journey?
* What personality traits do you consider important in a good friend / a boss / a partner?
* Do you consider yourself to be even-tempered?
* What is one thing that many people don't know about you?
* What expressions include colors when discussing illness? (ex., white or pale, pink eye, black and blue for bruises, yellow fever)
* What expressions include colors and feelings? (ex. I feel blue, green with envy, red with rage, turning red, black circles under the eyes, you are turning blue (with the cold))
* What do the colors in your home country's flag represent?
* Do you think birth order(oldest, youngest or middle) makes a difference in your personality?

**Conversation Questions  
Restaurants & Eating Out**

* How often do you eat out?
* Where do you usually go when you eat out?
* How much do you usually pay when you eat out?
* Who do you usually go with when you eat out?
* Do you like western food? Japanese? Thai? Italian?
* Can you name restaurants in this area that serve food from other countries?
  + What kinds of foods do these restaurants serve?
  + Have you ever eaten at any of them?
* Do you ever eat greasy food? Salty? Sweet? Spicy?
* Do you know how to order food in English?
  + Have you ever done so?
  + If so, was it easy to do so?
* Do you ever eat at McDonalds? KFC? Other fast food restaurants?
* What is your favorite appetizer? Main Course? Dessert?
* Do you ever drink alcoholic beverages when you eat out?
  + If so, what do you drink?
* Do you know what a Caesar salad is? Buffalo wings? Nachos? Chicken fried steak?
* Did you enjoy eating out in other countries you have visited?
  + Which country had the best food?
  + Which foods did you enjoy the most?
  + Did you think the cost was high or low?
* Do you know anyone who has owned a restaurant?
* Have you ever worked in a restaurant?
  + If so, what kind of restaurant?
  + How long did you work there?
  + Did you enjoy your job?
* How many different types of salad dressing can you name?
  + What salad dressings can you name?
* Do you worry about calories and fat content when you eat out?
  + How about cholesterol ?
  + How about insecticides and other chemicals?
* Would you send a dish back if it did not taste good or you received the wrong food?
* Do you ever leave a tip at a restaurant? How much?
* In what ways have people's eating habits changed nowadays?
* Do you think western food is too expensive? Why or why not?
* Have you ever had a restaurant cater a party at your house?
  + If not, would you consider it?
  + If so, were you happy with the service?
  + Would you do it again?
  + What kind of food did they serve?
* Who pays when you go out for dinner?
* What's the worst experience you ever had at a restaurant?
* What's the most disgusting food you ever ate in a restaurant?
* Do you like eating at buffets? Why or why not?
  + Where was the best buffet you've ever eaten at?
  + What kinds of foods were there?
* Have you ever eaten at an all-you-can-eat restaurant?
  + Did you eat too much?
  + Do you think it was a good value?
  + Was the taste as good as a regular restaurant?
* Why do you think westerners are usually heavier than Asians?
* Do you ever order out from a restaurant?
  + What kind of foods?
* Do you think this area has a good variety of foreign restaurants?
  + What other kinds of restaurants would you like to see opened?
* Can kids eat free at any of the restaurants you go to?
  + Do senior citizens get a discount?
  + Are there times of the day when anyone can get a discount?
* Have you ever been to a restaurant with valet service?
* Do you like to try new restaurants, or do you prefer to go to those you have already been to? Why?
* Do you care what a restaurant looks like, or is the food the only thing you care about?
* What do you think about children crying in a restaurant when you are trying to eat?
* What do you think about people smoking in a restaurant when you are trying to eat?
  + What would you think if you saw the cook at the restaurant smoking while he is cooking your food?
* Do you prefer fresh ingredients prepared by a chef as you order or do you prefer pre-cooked food?

**Conversation Questions  
School**

* Are you allowed to eat in the classrooms?
* Are you allowed to smoke in the classrooms?
* Did you belong to any clubs in high school?
* Did you go to a public high school or a private one?
* Did you have to wear a uniform in high school? How about elementary school?
* Did you study art in high school?
* Did your high school have a band? If so, did you play in it?
* Do most of your teachers take attendance?
* Do some of your teachers let class out early?
* Do you carry a dictionary to your English classes? How about your other classes?
* Do you enjoy studying English? (...math, science, ...)
* Do you ever skip class?
* Do you have any evening classes?
* Do you play on any of the school's sports teams?
* Do you still keep in touch with your best friend in elementary school?
* Have you ever been absent?
* Have you ever been late for a class?
* Have you ever been late for class?
  + If so, why?
  + When was the last time?
  + Did the teacher get angry?
* Have you ever failed a class? (Maybe this is not polite to ask.)
* Have you ever slept in class?
* How do you usually come here? (How do you get to school?)
* How long does it take you to get to school?
* How many times have you been absent from school this year?
* How much homework do you do every day?
* Was your high school strict?
* Were you on any sports teams in high school?
* What classes do you not like? Why don't you like them?
* What did you like best about high school?
* What do you like best about your school?
* What do you like the least about your school?
* What do you think about your English class? Your gym class?
* What do you think of our cafeteria?
* What do you think of this campus?
* What do you want to do after you graduate?
* What is your best memory from junior high school?
  + How about high school?
  + What's your worst memory?
* What school did you graduate from? What high school? What junior high school?
* What time does your first class begin on Tuesday?
* What was the name of your junior high school?
* What were some of the rules you had to follow at your high school?
  + Which rules did you think were unfair?
  + Did you ever get caught breaking any school rules?
  + Were you allowed to smoke on campus?
  + Were you allowed to eat food in the classroom?
* What's your favorite subject?
  + Why do you like it?
  + Who is the teacher?
  + How many times a week does the class meet?
* Which subjects are you good at?
  + (What are your strong subjects?)
* Which subjects are you poor at?
  + (Which subjects are difficult for you?)
* Who is your favorite teacher?
  + What course does he or she teach?
  + Why do you like him or her?
* What did you find the most surprising thing about the USA school system?
* What are the major characteristics you think a teacher should have?
* Do you have to wear a uniform to your school? (Did you have to....)
  + Do you like wearing a uniform?
* Tell us about your favorite teacher.
  + Why do you like him/her?
* Do you like to wear a school uniform? Why or why not?
* How are the customs of the classrooms in the US different from the customs that you have experienced in other places?

**Conversation Questions  
Silly Questions**

* What is your favorite way to eat a cockroach?
* Who fell out of the apple tree?
* Why did the ghost cry on Halloween Day?
* Do you enjoy swimming when it is snowing?
* Why don't you want Christmas presents this year?
* How did you escape from the alien space ship?
* How did you feel after watching television for 24 hours?
* Would you ever wear your mother's dress to your all boys high school?
* What is a typical day in the life of your dictionary (pet frog, walking shoes, classroom)?
* Did your parents ever have children?
* Would you rather kiss a crocodile or a bear?
* What is on your mouse pad?
* If you were a color, what would you be? Why?
* Why do people call "mouse trap" mouse trap?
* Are couch potatoes good to eat?
* What are the names of the eight colors of rainbows?
* Why do you make your bed in the morning?
* Why do you look at yourself in the mirror?
* What planet are you from?
* When was the last time you went to the restroom?
* How much does your imagination weigh?
* What some of the ways can you ride a bike?

**Conversation Questions  
Teenagers**

* Do you think teenagers today should show more respect for adults? (teachers, parents etc)
* What do you think about teenagers who dye their hair blue, green, or another crazy colour?
* Do you think that wearing uniforms to school is a good idea?
* What type of punishment did your parents use when you were a teenager?
* At what age should teenagers leave home?
* At what age did you leave home?
* What would you do if your teenage son or daughter got a tattoo?
* What would you do if your teenage son or daughter shaved his or her head?
* How do you feel about swearing? Does it matter if teenagers sometimes use bad language?
* What do you think about rock videos today?
* What do you think parents can do to help teenagers avoid depression?
* Do you believe in anti-depression drugs?
* Do you think teenagers today have it 'too easy'?
* Did you have a good relationship with your parents? Why or why not?
* Do you think it's a good idea to give teenagers a lot of freedom? (example: come home when you like)
* Do teenagers in your former country have problems with drugs or alcohol?
* What can you do to keep your teenager away from drugs and alcohol?
* Is teenage suicide a problem?
* What is the most important thing a parent can do for a teenager?
* Why do you think some teenagers do good things and others (in the same family often) do bad things?
* At what age should a teenage girl have her first serious boyfriend? boys?
* How old were you when you had your first serious relationship?
* What can society do to help teenagers who have problems at home?
* Are there more pregnant teenage girls in Canada and the U.S. than in your country? Why?
* What is the best advice you could give to a teenager growing up in this culture?
* Do you think that advertising plays an important role in how teenagers think?
* Should teenagers work? why or why not?
* Did you work when you were a teenager?
* If you could be a teenager again, would you do anything differently?
* Do you think it is better to raise teenagers in the city, a small town, or the country?
* What is it like to be a teenager in your society?
* Would you rather be a child, teenager or an adult? Why?
* What are the advantages of being a child, a teenager and an adult? What are the disadvantages?
* If you could meet any teenager in the world, who would it be?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to leave school?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to smoke?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to drink?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to drive?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to get married?
* At what age should teenagers be allowed to vote?
* Do you know any good role models for teenagers? Do you know any teenagers who don't act like other teens? Why do you think they act differently?
* What do teenagers think about?
* What do you/will you remember about being a teenager?
* Can teens change the world? If yes, how? If not, why not?
* What's the difference between teenage girls and teenage boys? What causes those differences?
* Would you rather be stuck in a bus with children, teens, young adults, adults or elderly adults? Why?
* When did you start to be a teen? How did you know that you were a teenager? Do you still feel like a teen sometimes?
* What is the difference between the teenagers of 19th century and the teenagers of the 21 st century?
* As a teenager, how do you think fashion changed or affected your life?
* Among the fashion stuff that is prevalent in the world today, which do you think is the most hideous one?
* How much freedom should parents give to their teenagers?
* If you were a parent and your teenage child did something wrong, how would you discipline him/her?
* What do you think is the greatest problems facing the teenagers of today?
* How do you think can we eradicate or at least lessen juvenile delinquency?
* How does media affect the thinking patterns of the teenagers of today?
* If you could do something differently, which mistake in the past would you not do and why?
* As a teenager, what do you think you can contribute to society?

**Conversation Questions  
Tell me about...?**

* Tell me about something you love.
* Tell me about something you hate.
* Tell me about something you really care about.
* Tell me about someone you dislike.
* Tell me about a dream you've had.
* Tell me about a goal you have.
* Tell me about yourself.
* Tell me about your childhood.
* Tell me about something you believe in.
* Tell me about a place you've visited.
* Tell me about an accident you've seen.
* Tell me about a time when you were happy.
* Tell me about a time when you were sad.
* Tell me about a time when you were excited.
* Tell me about a time when you were frightened.
* Tell me about your favorite pastime.
* Tell me about chocolate.
* Tell me about rainy days.
* Tell me about something beautiful.
* Tell me about something ugly.
* Tell me about something delicious.
* Tell me about something pleasant.
* Tell me about something boring.
* Tell me about something with four legs.
* Tell me about something with a tail.
* Tell me about something spicy.
* Tell me about your education.
* Tell me about your work.
* Tell me about a teacher you had.
* Tell me about a boss you had.
* Tell me about the hardest thing you ever had to do.
* Tell me about a time you lied.
* Tell me about something you regret.
* Tell me about a mistake you made.
* Tell me about someone in your family.
* Tell me about your favorite book.
* Tell me about someone you envy.
* Tell me about something you've achieved.
* Tell me about the worst punishment you had when you were a child.
* Tell me about your first kiss (if it is possible).
* Tell me about someone you admire.
* Tell me about the last book you've read / movie you've watched.
* Tell me about a country or place you would like to visit and why.
* Tell me about your favourite music / song / band.
* Tell me about something you would happily do again.

**Conversation Questions  
Travel**

* Have you ever been abroad?
* Where have you been?
* Are you planning on going anywhere for your next vacation?
  + If so, where?
  + Who with?
  + How long will you stay?
* Are you afraid of going abroad alone?
* Could you live in another country for the rest of your life?
* Describe the most interesting person you met on one of your travels.
* Describe your best trip.
* Describe your worst trip.
* Did your class in high school go on a trip together?
  + If so, where did you go?
  + How long did you stay?
  + How did you get there?
* Do you have a driver's license?
* Do you like to travel with children? Why or why not?
* Do you like to travel with your mother? Why or why not?
* Do you prefer summer vacations or winter vacations?
* Do you prefer to travel alone or in a group? Why?
* Do you prefer to travel by train, bus, plane or ship?
* Do you prefer traveling by car or by plane?
* Have you ever been in a difficult situation while traveling?
* Have you ever been on an airplane?
  + How many times?
  + What airlines have you flown with?
* Have you ever been to a foreign country?
* Have you ever gotten lost while traveling? If so, tell about it.
* Have you ever hitchhiked? If so, how many times?
* Have you ever taken a package tour?
* How do you spend your time when you are on holiday and the weather is bad?
* How many countries have you been to? How many states?
* How many times have you traveled abroad?
* How much luggage do you usually carry?
* If you traveled to South America, what countries would like to visit?
* If you went to \_\_\_(Insert a country name)\_\_, what kind of souvenirs would you buy?
* If you were going on a camping trip for a week, what 10 things would you bring? Explain why.
* What are some countries that you would never visit? Why would you not visit them?
* What are some things that you always take with you on a trip?
* What countries would you like to visit? Why?
* What countries would you most like to visit?
* What countries would you not like to visit? Why?
* What country do you most want to visit?
  + Why?
  + Do you think you will ever go there?
* What do you need before you can travel to another country?
* What is the most interesting city to visit in your country?
* What is the most interesting souvenir that you have ever bought on one of your holidays?
* What languages can you speak?
* What place do you want to visit someday?
* What was the most interesting place you have ever visited?
* What's the most beautiful place you've ever been to?
* When was the last time your traveled?
* When you are on a long car journey do you play games or sing songs to occupy your time?
  + What kind of games?
  + What songs?
* Where are you going to go the next time you travel?
  + When are you going to go?
  + Who are you going to go with?
  + How long are you going to go for?
  + What are you going to do there?
  + What kind of things do you think you will buy?
* Where did you go on your last vacation?
  + How did you go?
  + Who did you go with?
* Where did you spend your last vacation? Your summer vacation? Your Christmas vacation?
* Where will you go on your next vacation?
* Would you like to take a cruise? Where to? With who?
* Do you prefer traveling on a hovercraft or a ferry?
* Would you prefer to stay at a hotel/motel or camp while on vacation?
* Would you rather visit another country or travel within your own country?
* Would you rather go to a place where there are a lot of people or to a place where there are few people?
* Do you find more fulfillment from your leisure activities including vacations than from your job?
* Do you think the type of vacation one takes reflects one's social status?
* What are popular tourist destinations in your country?
  + Have you been to any of them?
  + Which would you recommend if you could only recommend one? Why?
* Do you prefer active or relaxing holidays? Why?
* Which is better, package tour or a tour you organize and book yourself?
* Why do you travel?
  + Why do people travel?
* Would you like to go back to the same place?
* Did you find anything of particular interest? / Did you get attracted to anything special?
* What are some benefits of travel?
  + Why do people travel?
* What is your favorite mode of travel?
* Have you travelled in business class?
* When you were a child did your family take a vacation every year?
* Do you prefer a budget or first class hotel? Why?
* Do you travel with a lot of baggage or do you like to travel light?
* What is your favorite method of travel at your destination? Train? Bus? Boat? Bicycle? Backpacking?
* What is the best kind of holiday for different ages of people? i.e. Children, teenagers, adults, elderly people
* Do you think it is a good idea to travel with friends, or alone? How about with your family?
* If you had $100,000, where would you go on holiday? How about if you had $10,000? What about $1,000?
* Which countries have you travelled to?
* Do you prefer hot countries or cool countries when you go on holiday
* Who makes the decisions when your family decides to go on holiday
* If you could choose one place to go this weekend, where would it be? (could be anywhere in the world)
* Has the airline ever lost your luggage? What happened?
* On long flights do you usually walk around the plane to avoid health problems?
* Have you ever read an interesting question in an in-flight magazine? What was it?
* Is there any difference between young tourists and adult tourists?
* Do you think tourism will harm the earth?

**Conversation Questions  
Volunteer Work**

* What is a volunteer project?
* Why do people volunteer?
* Would you like to work as a volunteer?
* Is volunteering worth the time it takes?
* Why would you enjoy volunteering?
* Do you know anyone who has done volunteer work?
  + Where and why did they volunteer?
  + Could you and would you like to work as a volunteer in the same way?
* What could you do to help if you had no money?
* What is volunteer work?
  + What is your definition of "volunteer work"?
  + What is the dictionary definition of "volunteer"?
* Have you ever benefitted by someone's volunteer work?
  + What is volunteer screening?
* Have you ever done any volunteer work?
* What organizations do volunteer work?
  + What kind of work do they do?
* What situations need volunteer workers?
  + Can you think of different types of volunteer work?
  + Can you think of examples of professional and amateur volunteering?
* Have you and your family ever worked on a volunteer project together?
  + What did you do?
* What are volunteer activities that people do?
* Can you think of ways to help people who need help?
* Have you ever done any volunteer work?
  + Did you do it alone, with friends or with your family?
  + Did you make new friends while you were doing the work?
* Have you ever volunteered to help victims of natural disasters? Why?
* Would you volunteer to help people outside your community?
  + Would you volunteer to help people outside your country?
* Have you ever volunteered to help victims of natural disasters? Why or why not?
* What are some organizations through which you can volunteer?
* Why benefits do you get personally by volunteering?
* How did you feel about volunteering before you started work?
  + How did you feel during the work?
  + How did you feel after you had finished the work?
* What are some organizations through which you can volunteer?
  + What kind of work did they do?
* What are some websites maintained by volunteer organizations?
* Have you read a book about volunteer work?
* Can you list some reasons why people volunteer?
* How can volunteers benefit from their work?
* Why would you enjoy certain types of volunteer work?
* What types of volunteer work would be unpleasant for you?
* What benefits other than personal satisfaction could you personally get by volunteering?
* Is volunteering worth the cost to you?
  + In what situations and at what times in your life could you afford to volunteer?
* Do you know anyone who has done volunteer work?
  + Where did they work and why did they volunteer?
* Is there a history of volunteerism in your country?
  + Can you find information about volunteering in your country and two other countries?
* Can a volunteer be treated the same as paid staff?
* Should you volunteer if your main reason is to benefit monetarily or materialistically? (ie. Getting first pick at donated merchandise. Underpricing merchandise for your friends or family.)

**Conversation Questions  
What if...?**

* If you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do?
* If a classmate asked you for the answer to a question during an exam while the teacher was not looking, what would you do?
* If someone's underwear was showing, would you tell them?
* If the whole world were listening, what would you say?
* If one song were to describe your life, what song would it be?
* If you bumped your car into another car, but nobody saw you do it, would you leave your name and address?
* If you could ask God any one question, what would it be?
* If you could be a bird, what would you choose to be?
* If you could be a plant, what would you choose to be?
* If you could be a super-hero, which one would you be?
* If you could be an animal, any animal, what animal would you be and why?
* If you could be an animal, what would you be?
* If you could be an animal, what would you choose to be?
* If you could be another man or woman for a day, who would you choose?
* If you could be another person for a day, who would you be?
* If you could be invisible for a day what would you do and why?
* If you could change one thing about your spouse or significant other, what would it be?
* If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?
* If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?
* If you could choose how you were going to die, what would you choose your death to be?
* If you could choose to live on a different planet, which one would you choose?
* If you could commit any crime and get away with it, what would you do?
* If you could date a celebrity, who would you choose?
* If you could have only one food for the rest of your life (assuming that this strange situation would not affect your health), which food would you choose?
* If you could hear what someone is thinking for a day, who would you choose?
* If you could live anywhere, where would you live?
* If you could meet any famous person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?
* If you could speak any other language (besides English) which language would you like to speak?
* If you could spend a day with any celebrity, who would it be and what questions would you ask that person?
* If you could take a vacation anywhere in the world for any length of time, where would you go?
  + if you could go anywhere in the world for a holiday, where would you go?
* If you could travel back in time, where would you go?
* If you didn't have enough money to get the bus home what would you do?
* If you discovered a new island, what would you name it and why?
* If you got arrested for murder, whom would you call with your telephone call from prison? And why?
* If you had an accident and you had to be at home to recover for a long time, what would you do to relieve the boredom?
* What would you do if you were at home at night, alone, and you heard a noise in your flat/house that seemed to be footsteps? Would you stay calm or would you panic?
* What would you do if you found the wallet of your next-door neighbor who you hated?
* If you could have any car you wanted, which car would you choose? Would it be practical or flashy?
* If your car broke down on the motorway, what would you do? Would you try to fix it yourself?
* If you could solve the problem of hunger in the third world or repair the ozone, which would you do?
* If you could stop a bad habit that you have, what would you stop?
* If you could go back to any moment in history, where would you go?
* If you could be famous (a household name), what would you like to be famous for?
* If you were on holiday and you lost your passport, would you know what to do?
* If you were offered a job in another part of the country, would you be willing to take the job, assuming that the pay is very good?
* If your partner were offered a job in another part of the country, which was well paid, would you be willing to change places?
* If you were in the bank and somebody started to hold up the bank, what would you do? How would you react?If you had one wish, what would you wish for?
* If you could only listen to one song for the rest of your life, which song would you choose?
* If only one book existed, which book would you like it to be?
* If you could do any job, what would you like to do?
* If you could move anywhere, where would you like to live?
* If you found a suitcase full of $1,000,000, what would you do?
* If you found a wallet with £1,000 in it, what would you do?
* If you had 25-hour days (while everyone else continued to have 24-hour days), what would you do with the extra time?
* If you had one wish, what would it be?
* If you had the opportunity to be different, what would you change?
* If you had time machine, where would you go and why?
* If you had to choose between a wonderful romantic relationship that would end after only a year, or a so-so relationship that would last your entire life, which one would you choose?
* If you had to choose between love and no money or money and no love for the rest of your life, which would you choose?
* If you had to choose, would you give up your sight or your hearing?
* If you received lottery tickets as a gift at the office party, and you won $30,000.00, would you share the winnings with the person that gave you the gift?
* If you saw a robbery, would you report it?
* If you saw your zipper was down and people had noticed, what would you do?
* If you speak two languages and your spouse (husband or wife) speaks only one, will you raise your children to be bilingual?
* If you were a candy, what candy would you be?
* If you were a monster, what monster would you be?
* If you were a toy, what toy would you be?
* If you were abducted by aliens, would you tell anybody? Why or why not?
* If you were American/Chinese/Mexican, how would your life be different?
* If you were asked to choose which time you would like to live in, which century would you choose?
* If you were asked to speak to a graduating class, what would you say?
* If you were given a chance to go to the moon, would you go? Why or why not?
* If you were given a choice between being given great wisdom or great wealth, which would you choose?
* If you were given an opportunity to be born again, in which country would you like to be born?
* If you were given an opportunity to be born again, what kind of person would you choose to be?
* If you were given one million dollars, what would you buy?
* If you were given the opportunity to be born again, how would you change how you lived?
* If you were given the opportunity to mold your partner the way you wanted, how would you mold your partner?
* If you were given three wishes, what would you wish for?
* If you were God, how would you transmit or let people know your message?
* If you were going to a deserted island and could only take three things with you, what would you take? Why?
* If you were marooned on a desert island with one other person how would you survive?
* If you were invited to have tea with the Queen of England, what would say?
* if you were the leader of your country, what would you change?
* If you were the President, what problem or concern would you work on first?
* If you were to be stranded on an island, which three things would you bring with you?
* If you were told that you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do today?
* If you were walking through the forest and you suddenly saw a tiger, what would you do?
* If you woke up suddenly because your house was on fire, which three things would you save as you ran outside?
* If you worked for a store and you saw another employee steal something, would you tell the manager?
* If your friend could not have a child, would you carry her child for her?
* If you saw someone in public with toilet paper stuck to their shoe, would you tell them?
* If you could change one thing that you did that was bad,perhaps a crime or some wrong you did to another person,what would it be?
* What kinds of problems would you have if you had to always tell the truth?
* You were told you had a terminal illness and had six months to live. What three things would be most important for you to do?
* Your doctor has just told you that you have a month to live, what would you do in that stretch of time?
  + If your doctor told you that you had only one month to live, how would you use the time left?
* What if you have to sacrifice yourself for the sake of saving your mother? What would you do?
* If you could live perfectly well without sleeping, if you had no need to sleep at all, how would you spend all your nights?
* If you could be married with a foreign (man/woman), how do you think your life would change?
* If you had a chance to choose a poor (man/woman) as a (husband/wife) from your culture or a rich (man/woman) from another culture, which would you choose?
* If you got into traffic accident, what would you do at first?
* If you could be God, what would you do for humanity?
* If you could receive praise from a person, what person would it be?
  + What kind of praise would you like to receive?
* If you were a color, what color would you be and why?
* If you could be a crayon, What color and Why?
* If you were a fruit, what fruit would you be and why?
* If you had time machine and you could be transported to any time, the past or the future. What time would you choose?
* If you could ask an All-Knowing Being one question about life, what would it be?
* If you could have dinner with anyone (dead OR alive), who would you choose, and why?
* If you could live forever on earth as it is now, would you? Why or why not?
* If you could have a free chip put in your brain so that you would automatically be able to speak and understand another language besides English, which language would it be and why?
* If you were the Queen or King of Britain for a day, what would you do?
* If you were the President of the USA for a day, what would you do?
* If you had to spend 100 days on a desert island, what five things would you take with you and why?
* If you were down on your luck, would you seek the advice of a palm reader,
* You can ask current event questions using this pattern. However, depending on the class, you need to be careful about what kind of questions you ask.
  + If the U.S. attacked North Korea, what would happen?
  + What would you do if you lost your bathing suit while you were swimming?
  + Imagine you woke up one morning to find you had switched bodies with someone you know. What would you do?
  + If you could have any one supernatural power (flying, being invisible), which would you choose and why?
  + If you could say a sentence which the whole world could hear, what would you say?
  + If you were a loin would you like to eat a man?
  + If you could choose to live anywhere in the world where would you prefer to live?
  + If your spouse cheated on you, what would you do?
  + If you were given a choice to live as long as you want, how long would you like to live? If we could live for 300 years, what would the life be like?

**Conversation Questions  
Would you ever...?**

**Note:** You can follow up most of these questions with a why or why not or with the question "In what situation(s) would you consider doing so?"

* Would you ever adopt a child?
  + Would you ever give your child up for adoption?
* Would you ever cheat on your husband/wife?
* Would you ever consider being a criminal?
* Would you ever consider being a farmer?
* Would you ever consider getting plastic surgery?
* Would you ever consider going bungee jumping? Would you ever consider going skydiving?
* Would you ever defy your boss if he/she asked you to do something you didn't agree with?
* Would you ever donate a kidney or another vital organ?
* Would you ever donate blood?
* Would you ever drive a car if you had forgotten your license at home?
* Would you ever drive at night with only one headlight?
* Would you ever drive your car with a flat tire?
* Would you ever eat rat meat?
* Would you ever eat rice with sugar?
* Would you ever feed the animals at the zoo?
* Would you ever get hair implants?
* Would you ever give money to a charity?
* Would you ever give money to a panhandler? (a beggar)
* Would you ever go skinny dipping? (swim naked)
* Would you ever lie to your children?
  + ... to your husband/wife?
  + ... your boyfriend/girlfriend?
* Would you ever lie to help a friend?
* Would you ever marry someone your parents didn't approve of?
* Would you ever paint your living room black?
* Would you ever pick up a hitchhiker?
* Would you ever slap someone for something they said?
* Would you ever smoke in a no smoking area?
* Would you ever spank your child?
* Would you ever steal from your family or friends?
* Would you ever "take a bullet" for someone else?
* Would you ever walk downtown without any shoes on your feet?
* Would you ever walk home alone at night?
  + ... in this country?
  + ... in your own country?
* Would you eat a live cricket for $500? If not, how much would it take?
* Would you ever consider killing yourself?
* Would you ever eat human flesh?
* Would you ever resort to cannibalism if it were the only option left to stay alive?
* Would you divorce your husband/wife if your favorite celebrity wanted to marry you?
* Would you name your children after favorite characters in movies or books? Would you do so if the names were strange, as in science fiction movies or books?
* Would you ever pull over and help someone on the side of the road?
  + Do you think this could be dangerous to do?
* Would you ever say yes to someone even if you meant no?
* Would you ever donate an organ in order to save other person's life?
* Would you ever consider plastic surgery if a friend suggested it to you?
* Would you ever consider writing your own book?
* Would you ever try staying in the jungle for a month?
* Would you ever consider surrogacy?
* Would you ever consider being a surrogate mother yourself?
* Would you ever consider egg or sperm donation?
* Would you ever pretend to be someone (like a policeman, or a teacher, or a survey taker) just to get something that you wanted?

**YOUTH & OLD AGE**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Are young people generally more selfish than their parents and grandparents?

2. Should adults try to teach young people lessons, such as the dangers of drinking too

much, taking drugs or contracting the HIV virus, or should they leave them alone to

find out about these things themselves?

3. What do you think is the best age to be? Explain your opinion.

4. Most countries give young people rights as they reach a certain age. For example, British people can legally make love or fight for their country at the age of 16; they can drink, vote and drive a car when they are 18.

Does your country have similar laws? Do you think that any of the age limits need changing?

5. Should young people have to do some form of military or community service by law?

6. Should people of between 60 and 65 be obliged to retire from their jobs in order to

make way for younger workers?

7. Are there many things that the old can teach the young or are they hopelessly out of

touch by the time they reach a certain age?

8. In most countries, compulsory education is targeted at 5 - 16 year olds. Would it

be better to offer it to pensioners who want to learn rather than young people

who prefer not to be in school?

9. In Russia, China and many other countries, there is a tradition of choosing leaders

who are advanced in years. Do you think that older people make better leaders?

10. Many elderly people have disabilities which limit their mobility. Do buses, shops

and public buildings in your country provide easy access for the disabled or are

your towns and cities designed mainly for the young and able-bodied?

11. Should the elderly be expected to pay for residential care out of their own savings or

should appropriate accommodation and nursing be provided by the tax payer?

**WORK**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. What ratio of work to leisure would be your ideal? Answer using percentages.

2. Are the people in your country famous for working hard or for having a good social life?

3. What jobs would you most and least like to do?

4. What jobs have you done in your life and what did you like and dislike about them?

5. Which age-groups are worst affected by unemployment in your country?

Should people who have never worked before be entitled to unemployment benefit?

6. What are the causes of unemployment and how is the problem solved in your country?

7. Do women in your country have equality of job opportunities? Are they paid as well as men?

8. Are there many migrant workers in your country? If so, what kind of jobs do they do? What are their working conditions like?

9. Do people leave your country to find work in other countries? Where do they go?

What sort of jobs do they get? Are they made welcome?

10. Do workers in your country pay a lot of income tax to the government?

Do people with large salaries pay a much higher rate of tax than other workers? Do you think they should?

11. Do you think that every worker should have the right to join a Trade Union?

12. Do you think that every worker, (including doctors, nurses, teachers, the police,

ambulance crews and fire fighters), should have the right to go on strike?

**VIOLENCE**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. "There should be strict censorship of films and news bulletins on television

to prevent children from copying violent incidents." Do you agree?

2. "Children’s cartoons such as .... and ..... teach children the wrong lessons." Do you agree?

3. "Television cameras should not record crowd disturbances during sporting events

such as football matches." What do you think?

4. "Combat sports such as boxing where the aim is to injure your opponent should be

banned and should certainly not be part of the Olympic Games." Do you agree?

5. "Products such as pornographic videos and rap music which give expression to

violence against women should be withdrawn from sale." Do you agree?

6. "In most countries, military training which prepares people for violence against an

enemy, should be replaced by schemes to serve the community." Do you agree?

7. "Nobody should be permitted to own a hand gun for a hobby." What do you think?

8. "Combat knives should be made illegal." Do you agree?

9. "Parents should not buy toy guns or war toys for their children." Do you agree?

10. "Corporal punishment should not be used either at school or in the home." Do you agree?

**TRANSPORT**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Which is your favourite means of private transport?

2. Do you drive a car? When did you learn to drive? What make of car do you drive?

3. What skills do you need to practise to pass the driving test in your country?

Did you pass your test first time? What do you find most difficult about driving?

4. Which is your favourite kind of public transport -

* buses or trains?
* ships or planes?

5. How do you usually travel to work, school or college in your country?

6. How did you get from your home in your country to your host mother’s house?

7. Are you in favour of more road building to create more space for the private motorist

in your country?

8. Do you think that more cycle lanes are needed in your own town or city? What would

be some of the problems in providing more facilities for cyclists?

9. Do you think that more freight should be sent by rail? Why are companies

reluctant to send their goods this way? What needs to be done to change their minds?

10. What transport do you think we’ll be using in 50 years time?

\_**TRAVEL**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. How many countries have you visited and which is your favourite country apart from your own? Explain why?

2. Would you like to live permanently in another country? Why or why not?

3. Which is the longest journey you have ever made? How did you travel? What events do you remember on the way?

4. Which is your favourite journey for beautiful scenery? Describe what there is to see.

5. Which capital city is your favourite? How do you like to spend your time there?

6. Do you enjoy touring - travelling from place to place? Describe one of your itineraries?

7. Do you suffer from travel sickness or anxiety in cars boats or planes?

If so, what do you do to overcome these problems?

8. Do you buy travel insurance before going to visit other countries?

What worries would make you take out insurance?

9. Imagine you are an explorer and have the opportunity to make a big journey.

Which continent would you visit? Where would you go? What would you hope to see?

10. Is organised travel the best way of learning about the world?

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**SPORT**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Which is more important in sport - winning or taking part? Are you a good loser?

2. Should we always try to keep politics out of sport?

3. What are the most important events in the sporting calendar in your country?

Which of these events do you enjoy most? Why?

4. Is it easy to take part in sport in your country? Which sports do you do and how

often do you take part?

5. Who are your sporting heroes and heroines? Why do you admire them?

6. Should the Olympic Games be held only in Greece or should they change between

different countries? Where would you like to see them held next time?

7. Do you think that boxing is a true sport? Should it be included in the Olympic Games?

Should it be made illegal?

8. Which is your favourite sport to watch and what do you think are the qualities of

a good team or a true champion in that sport?

9. Do people in your country do enough sport or do they prefer to watch TV and play

computer games? How could you encourage lazy people to do more sport?

\_**SOCIETY**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Should governments use the welfare system to encourage people to live within two

parent families?

2. At what age should a son or daughter be permitted to leave home?

3. Should young people be allowed to buy contraceptives as soon as they reach puberty?

4. Should the age of consent be the same for both gays and heterosexuals?

5. Should gays and heterosexuals have the same right to join the armed forces?

6. Should abortion be available to women on demand?

7. Should euthanasia be available to people in great pain who want to die?

8. Is it possible to pass effective laws against racism?

9. Do you believe in a high tax economy (e.g. Sweden) which distributes money to

education and health or a low tax economy (e.g. the U.S.A.) where people make

private provision for good services?

10. Do you have a vision of a better society? What changes would you make?

11. Do you think genetic engineering should be used to create good citizens?

12. What do you think are the characteristics of a good member of society?

**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. "Scientific measures should be standardized throughout the world. We should all use the metric system all of the time."

2. "Science is more important than religion in today’s world."

3. What do you think are the main dangers of scientific advances? What laws do you

think we need to protect societies from these dangers?

4. Have computers changed society for the better or for the worse?

5. Are you computer literate? Which software applications do you know?

6. Did you have lessons in Science and Technology at school? Were they well taught?

7. Would you prefer your child to study Arts or Science subjects?

8. Do you think Science will (a) end the world (b) save the world or (c) do neither?

9. Are most scientists in your country working on defence assignments or on non-military projects?

10. Which invention would you most like to have invented?

11. Are there more men scientists than women scientists in your country? If so, why?

**RICH & POOR**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. What kind of aid should the governments of rich countries give to poor countries?

2. "Population control is more important in rich countries than in poor countries since

rich babies consume much more of the world’s resources than poor ones."

3. "Economic Unions made up of rich countries are a form of protectionism which

prevents fair trade with Third World countries."

4. "Economic colonialism where multinational companies provide most of the work

opportunities is just as bad as colonialism where poor countries belong to rich ones."

5. "It is right for rich countries to have strict immigration controls to stop people from

poorer countries entering them and sharing in their better standard of living."

6. "Immigration should not be limited to people of similar race and culture. We should

welcome the opportunity of a truly multi-racial society."

7. "Everybody should be encouraged to do Voluntary Service Overseas (i.e. to live and

work in the Third World) so that we can understand the problems of poorer

countries and make a contribution to help them."

8. Would you like to be an overseas volunteer in a Third World country? If so,

which one and how could you contribute to that country’s development?

9. Are *the poor* poor because they are poor or because they are lazy?

**THE MEDIA**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. In some countries (like Britain), tabloid newspapers, which contain mostly gossip and pin-ups of good-looking women and men, sell many more copies than serious newspapers. Do readers in your country have the same interests?

2. Do reporters and photographers respect the private lives of famous people

in your country? How much freedom should the press be allowed by law?

3. Is the media in your country mainly owned by a few large monopolies?

Should the law allow ownership of several newspapers or TV channels?

4. Is there a bias towards any particular political party or interest group in

your country’s media?

5. Which would you prefer (a) TV channels without advertising

paid for by a licence fee (b) Free TV channels paid for by advertising

or (c) Pay-as-you-view TV where you only pay for what you watch?

6. In Britain, there are restrictions on what can be screened on TV before

9 p.m. Do you think that TV programme content should be censored?

7. Should governments act to control the Internet or should it be uncensored?

8. What do you use the Internet MOST for?

**MARRIAGE**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Are you for or against trial marriages i.e. living together outside marriage to test your compatibility?

2. Do you think that marriage should be for life? Should divorce be made easier or more difficult?

3. Why do you think that the divorce rate has become so high in many countries?

4. Is it better to marry someone of the same educational, social, cultural and racial background?

5. Is it better to marry someone of approximately the same age? Should the man be older than the woman?

6. How important is the religious aspect of marriage to you? Which aspects are more important, if any?

7. Should it be legal to marry more than one partner at the same time?

8. Should it be legal to marry someone of the same sex? Should marriages between gay and lesbian partners be recognised by the church?

\_**MALE & FEMALE ROLES**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Belinda Brooks-Gordon, a university psychologist, has done research showing

that men in a top international company categorise women into five groups:

* Babes (young and attractive women with little professional credibility)
* Mums (considered unattractive and ignored by male traders)
* Lesbians (feminists)
* Dragons (women considered old or unattractive, rudely treated)
* One-of-the-boys (women who behave like men - only they progress)

In your country, do women have equal opportunities in the work-place, for example:

the same pay and promotion opportunities as men? Are they categorised?

2. Is it easy for women to continue their careers after taking time off work

to start a family? Do companies provide crèches or nurseries?

3. Do parents and teachers in your country encourage girls and boys to grow up differently?

Do they play with the same toys? Do they receive the same education at school and university?

4. Do you think women and men should perform the same or different roles?

Are men usually the bread-winners and women usually the home-makers in your country?

5. Are there any "women’s or men’s rights" groups in your country?

\_**LANGUAGE LEARNING**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Describe "the good language learner" according to the following criteria:

* woman or man
* old or young
* extrovert or introvert
* other characteristics
* habits
* abilities ( including study skills )
* motivation and interests

2. In what ways are you a good or bad language learner?

3. How many languages can you speak and how well can you speak them?

4. "Fluency in a language is more important than accuracy". Do you agree?

5. Are you satisfied with the way languages are taught in your country?

6. Do tourists often try to speak your language when they visit your country?

7. "Every child should learn to speak a second language." Do you agree?

8. Which should be the official world language - English or?

\_**HOLIDAYS**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Do you prefer to book holidays through travel agents or to make your

own arrangements? Describe your best and worst holidays?

2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of TWO of the following

forms of holiday accommodation:

(a) five star hotel (b) budget hotel (c) guest house

(d) bed & breakfast (e) self-catering villa (f) farmyard cottage

(g) ocean liner (h) student family (i) youth hostel

(j) caravan (k) tent (l) canal boat ?

3. Which form of accommodation did you have on your last holiday?

Were you satisfied with it?

4. Which form of accommodation would you prefer for your next holiday

and how many people would you like to accompany you?

5. What are your favourite holiday activities?

6. Has your country been spoilt by tourist developments?

7. A friend wants to get to know your country and is planning a tour.

What advice would you give about places to visit, travel, accommodation,

eating out, shopping, sightseeing, things to bring and souvenirs to buy?

**HEALTH**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. "Governments should provide a first class National Health Service for

everybody so that nobody would want to pay for private treatment."

2. "Most nurses are overworked and underpaid." Do you agree?

3. "People who have damaged their health through smoking or drinking

should be at the back of the queue for expensive treatments."

4. Do people have the right to smoke when children in the same house

or colleagues in the same office have to inhale the smoke?

5. "Everybody should be compulsorily tested for HIV to allow the

authorities to monitor and counter the spread of AIDS."

6. "Alternative therapies should be recognised and licenced under the NHS

to include (a) acupuncture (b) homeopathy (c) aromatherapy & massage

(d) meditation (e) yoga (f) hypnosis and (g) faith healing."

7. "Western doctors prescribe drugs and medicines too freely since they

do not have time to treat patients as individuals." Do you agree?

Do you think other systems such as Chinese Medicine are any better?

\_**FOOD**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

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| **FOOD** | Discussion questions |

1. "The government should make it more expensive for farmers to use

pesticides and more profitable for them to grow organic food."

2. Which age-group in your country eats most fast and convenience food?

What could be done to encourage these people to eat more fresh food?

3. Should the law limit the number of fast food restaurants in our towns?

4. Should suppliers be permitted to irradiate fruit and vegetables to make

them stay greener for longer on the shop shelves?

5. Do you think you can get all the nourishment you need from a vegetarian

diet? Would you be happy to eat a vegetarian diet for a week?

6. The Hay diet encourages you to separate protein from carbohydrate,

while the Chinese "Ying & Yang" diet encourages balanced eating.

Can you describe any special diets which are followed in your country?

7. Should countries try to grow all their own food or is it better to depend

on trade to meet your food needs?

8. Many people eat too much sugar, butter and salt. How healthy

are eating habits (a) generally in your country (b) in your own family?

9. Are you for or against genetically modified food?

\_**FASHION**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Have you ever bought something because it was fashionable? If so, what?

2. Does the fashion industry exist mainly to persuade people to spend money on things they do not really need?

3. Is fashion selfish in a world where many people have not got what they need?

4. Do you think fashion models should be used to sell products such as cars?

5. Some fashion models refuse to advertise products involving animal cruelty

such as cosmetics and fur coats. Would you buy such products?

6. Would you like to be a fashion model if you were offered the opportunity?

7. Is your country famous for any fashion products? Which ones? How are they marketed?

8. Which countries have the best and worst fashions in clothes?

\_**EDUCATION**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Would you prefer to send your child to a mixed or single sex school?

2. Is day school always a better alternative to boarding school?

3. Should rich people be permitted to buy educational advantages by

sending their children to private schools or should all schools be

run by the state?

4. Do you prefer a system where children are put in fast and slow streams

or is it better to create mixed ability classes?

5. Should corporal punishment be permitted in schools?

6. Which system do you favour for measuring children’s progress -

final examinations or continuous assessment?

7. Do the "three Rs" (Reading, Writing and Arithmetic) make up the most

important part of the school curriculum?

**ECONOMICS**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. "Low tax, Laissez-Faire, economies are better than ones with large

public sectors." Do you agree?

2. "It is better to be within large economic unions like the European

Community rather than outside them." Do you agree?

3. "Governments should legislate to prevent monopolies becoming too

powerful." Do you agree?

4. "Free trade policies are always better than protectionist ones."

5. "Governments should not subsidize enterprises which are unprofitable."

6. "Countries should try to become self-sufficient in food and basic

necessities." Do you agree?

7. "Giving financial incentives to companies which locate themselves in

underdeveloped regions is a waste of public money. It is better to let

them set up where they want to be." Do you agree?

8. "Introducing the minimum wage will encourage foreign investors to

take their enterprises elsewhere."

**CULTURAL DIFFERENCES**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. "Cultural differences cause problems. It is better for people to stay in

their own countries rather than to migrate to other ones." Do you agree?

2. Would you prefer to live in a monoculture or a multi-racial society? Why?

3. "It is better to study major international languages like English rather than

to spend time on minority languages for the sake of regional identity."

Do you agree?

4. "Governments should give regions in their countries more autonomy

so that they can protect and enjoy their own cultures rather than serving

the centralized policies of the capital city." Do you agree?

5. Is it better to marry someone of the same cultural background?

6. "Religion as a school subject should include all the major world

religions - not only the majority religion in the country concerned."

Do you agree?

7. How does Canadian culture differ from the culture of your own country?

\_**CRIME & PUNISHMENT**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Should the death penalty exist as a punishment for murder or terrorism?

2. Should the main purpose of prison be punishment or rehabilitation?

3. What is the best way to deal with juvenile crime such as

* joy-riding?
* vandalism?
* graffiti?

4. Is it ever right for political activists to break the law?

5. How strict should the law be with people who drink and drive?

6. Which is the more serious problem in your country - tax evasion or social security fraud?

7. Should the police have the right to stop and search you in the street without a warrant?

8. Should the law respect the rights of homeless people to squat in unoccupied property or shop doorways?

9. Should smoking cannabis be a criminal offence?

\_**THE ARTS**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

1. Do you think that the tax payer should have to support the Arts?

For example, why should a football fan have to pay for opera?

2. Does your country have any well-known artists who are famous for

cinema, theatre, literature, ballet, opera, classical music or painting?

3. What are your "top three" art forms from the above list?

Explain the reasons for your order of preference.

4. In what ways were you encouraged to appreciate the Arts at home and

at school? What jobs in the Arts world would be suitable for you?

5. Give the names of your favourite novel, author, play, dramatist, film,

film director, musical composition, composer, painting and painter.

Why do you like them?

6. Which country would you visit to appreciate the Arts?

What would you plan to see?

7. Do you think there should be greater or less censorship of the Arts

in your country?

\_**ANIMAL RIGHTS**

**Discussion questions:\_\_\_\_\_\_ask and answer**

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| **ANIMAL RIGHTS** | Discussion questions |

1. Many vegetarians believe that factory farming is a cruel and unnecessary

practice and that our diets would be healthier if we ate less meat.

Do you agree?

2. Animal rights protesters argue that the export of live animals for

slaughter is uncivilized and should be prohibited under international

law. Do you agree?

3. "Keeping animals in zoos and circuses to entertain human-beings is

selfish and inhumane." Do you agree?

4. Bullfighting, fox-hunting and whale-hunting are part of some

countries’ traditions. Do you think that Spain, England and Japan

have a right to continue these traditions?

5. "Many people spend far too much money on household pets. They

would do better to have fewer cats and dogs and to use the money to

help poor and hungry people." What do you think?

6. Would you ever wear a fur coat?

7. Is it right to use animals for medical research or to test cosmetics?