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Unit 1 First Conversation

Learning Objectives

After learning this unit, you will be able to:

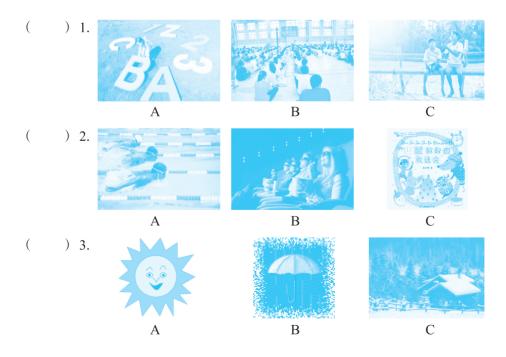
- 1 greet and say goodbye to people in different ways;
- 2 find topics for small talks in daily life;
- 3 have the skills to finish the listening contents.

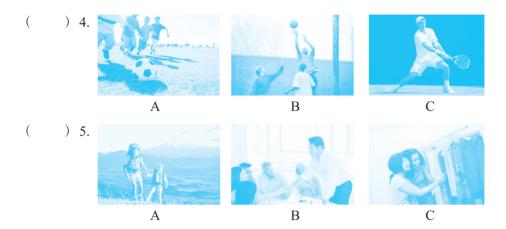


Part I Listening

Section A

In this part, you will hear one sentence about each group of pictures. When you hear the sentence, you must select the one that best matches what you see in the picture. Then mark the best corresponding letter on your paper according to what you have heard.





Section B

In this section, you will hear three statements about a picture. When you hear the statements, you must select the one that best describes what you see in the picture. Then mark the best corresponding letter on your paper according to what you have heard.



Section C

In this section, you will hear five short sentences. You are requested to write your answer in the corresponding blank according to what you have heard.

- 11. Hello, my name is William Morris from______.
- 12. Sorry, you dialed the wrong number, this is _____.
- 13. I'd like to introduce you to meet , he is an expert in accounting.

| 14. It's a bit cold today, the temperature could reach as low as _ | |
|--|--------------|
| 15. Please fill in the form, then give me your | and ID card. |

Section D

In this section, you will hear ten short conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear a question. Please choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D after each question you have heard.

16. A. 40 yuan.

B. 45 yuan.

C. 38 yuan.

- D. Not mentioned.
- 17. A. He believes the weather report completely.
 - B. He doubts the weather report.
 - C. It will rain tomorrow.
 - D. It will not rain tomorrow.
- 18. A. She will go to see a movie.
 - C. She doesn't like movies.
- 19. A. The lady is booking a table.
 - C. The lady is booking a room.
- 20. A. Yes, she will.
 - C. She didn't make the decision.
- 21. A. 10:10.
 - C. 10:05.
- 22. A. Make it at 9:30.
 - C. Make it in the morning.
- 23. A. The man is a student.
 - C. They don't know each other before.
- 24. A. Cooking.
 - C. Everything.
- 25. A. Turn off the TV.
 - C. Still on the same TV program.

- B. She didn't make her decision.
- D. She will not go to see a movie.
- B. The lady is booking a ticket.
- D. The lady is booking a flight.
- B. No, she won't.
- D. Not mentioned.
- B.10:15.
- D.10:25.
- B. Make it at 3:30.
- D. Make it at another time.
- B. The woman is a student.
- D. They meet for the first time.
- B. Nothing.
- D. Reading.
- B. Turn down the TV.
- D. Change to another TV program.

Section E

In this section, you will hear two recordings. At the end of each recording, you will

hear some questions. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Task 1

Questions 26 and 27 are based on the following conversation.

26. A. Very long time. B. Very short time.

C. Nearly two years. D. Almost one year.

27. A. Windy and dusty. B. Likes it very much.

C. Be used to it. D. Cool.

Task 2

Questions 28 to 30 are based on the following passage.

28. A. Expensive. B. Valuable.

C. Efficient. D. Well-educated.

29. A. To a meeting. B. To the airport.

C. To a party. D. To a football match.

30. A. Weather. B. Money.

C. Job. D. Trip.



Part II Speaking

Brief Background

First conversation could include many topics, such as greeting, invitation, self-introduction and so on. It is mainly about how to start a conversation and end a conversation.

Sample Situational Conversation

Greeting someone

Henry: Hi, Molly, long time no see.

Molly: Yes, Henry. It's been such a long time since we met.

Henry: How have you been?

Molly: Well, about the same. I am still studying at the vocational school I told you last time. You look so tired today, what's wrong with you?

Henry: I've caught a bad cold. I couldn't sleep last night because of the cough.

Molly: I am sorry to hear that. You'd better see a doctor.

Henry: I went to see the doctor, and took medicine but it didn't work.

Molly: Take it easy. I think you just need a good rest. Remember to drink plenty of water.

Henry: Thanks. It's very nice of you. By the way, where are you heading for?

Molly: An English training class. Oh, I almost forgot, I have to go now.

Henry: OK. Keep in touch. Goodbye.

Molly: Sure. Take care.

2 Invitation

John: Well, I think we've done enough work today. Would you like to go to the theater tonight?

Betty: Thank you, but I'm afraid I can't. Because I'm too tired to go out tonight.

John: I see. Well, how about the ballet tomorrow evening?

Betty: I'd like to come, but I have to fly to Paris with the boss to attend a trade fair tomorrow.

John: Never mind. I would also like to invite you to join us for my birthday party at my home on Saturday evening.

Betty: That's good! I'll surely be there.

John: OK, see you then.

3 Talking about people

Betty: Mr. Zhang, if you choose a friend, what kind of person would you like to pick?

Mr. Zhang: I'd like to choose a person who is nice and friendly, and being polite is important.

Betty: Could you tell me the reason?

Mr. Zhang: If one is polite to others, there will be fewer quarrels and fights between friends. How about you, Bill?

Betty: In my mind, I'd choose a person who likes joking. He should have a good sense of humor.

Mr. Zhang: Why do you think so?

Betty: Humor is good for our life and can make our life easier and nicer.

Mr. Zhang: I see.

4 Talking about places

Alan: Oh, Jack. When did you get back from China?

Jack: I was just back yesterday.

Alan: How was your trip?

Jack: So nice. I visited Shanghai and Guilin.

Alan: Which city do you like better?

Jack: Well, it's hard to say. Shanghai is much bigger than Guilin. It's the center of commerce and finance in China. It is more prosperous and a good place for shopping.

Alan: What's Guilin like? What's it famous for?

Jack: Guilin is much prettier than Shanghai. It has more beautiful sceneries. The city is well known for its mountains and rivers. The natural sceneries there are so attractive that it seems as if you were in a fairyland.

Alan: It seems you had a wonderful trip to China.

| | | Words and Phrases | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| • | vocational school | | 职业学校 |
| • | cough | n.& v. | 咳嗽 |
| • | keep in touch | | 保持联系 |
| • | attend | v. | 出席 |
| • | invite | v. | 邀请 |
| • | quarrel | n. | 争执, 吵架 |
| • | humor | n. | 幽默 |
| • | prosperous | adj. | 繁荣的,兴旺的 |
| • | scenery | n. | 风景 |
| • | attractive | adj. | 有吸引力的 |
| | | | |

Useful Sentences

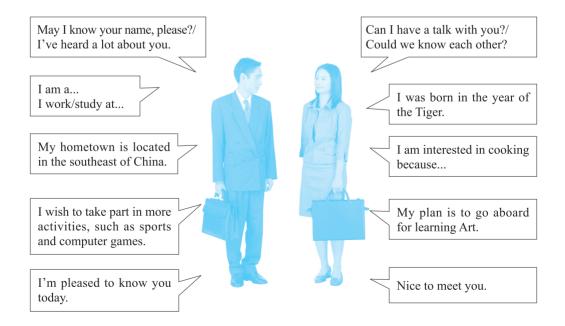
- 1 How have you been?
- 2 Would you like to go to the theater tonight?
- 3 Thank you, but I'm afraid I can't.
- 4 I would also like to invite you to join us for my birthday party at my home on Saturday evening.
 - 5 I'll surely be there.
 - 6 In my mind, I'd choose a person who likes joking.
 - Well, it's hard to say.
 - 8 The city is well known for its mountains and rivers.
 - 9 It seems you had a wonderful trip to China.



Part III Practice

Task 1

Kelly and Mike are making self-introduction to each other. Make a conversation. The following information may help you.



Task 2

Make a dialogue by choosing the following sentences in the box.

- 1 You don't need to feel sorry about that.
- 2 I am the one who should feel sorry in the first place. I'm sorry I didn't let you know sooner, but unfortunately the meeting was canceled at the last minute. There simply wasn't enough time to inform everyone.
- 3 Oh, don't let it worry you. I quite understand.
- 4 Sorry, I didn't show up at the meeting last night, but I wasn't really feeling all that well, so I decided not to risk going out.
- 5 But why?

Task 3

Make a short conversation with the words provided below.

Shanghai / Beijing / foggy / unsettled / a heavy rain / bright / a light wind /

Temperature / -2% / 5%

Task 4

You are talking with your friend about differences of party between America and China. Work in pairs. Practice making conversations with the help of the following instructions below.

America

- Usually arrive ten minutes later
- · Mostly buffet
- Communication
- · Mostly no acquaintance
- People can move everywhere

China

- Usually arrive on time
- Non-buffet
- Eating
- Numerous acquaintance
- People usually sit around the table

Task 5

Work in pairs. Practice making conversations with your partner according to the following situations.

Kennel invites Dan to watch a movie, but they have different ideas on which movie to watch. After discussion, they set a date and time for a comedy.



Part IV Cultural Tips

与欧美人交谈时的注意事项

1 不要不懂装懂

在与人交谈时,碰到不了解的地方,由于不好意思问,而装作了解,随口敷 衍,结果答非所问。这个习惯在与欧美人交谈时尤其要避免。

2 关于谦虚与谦让

在中国,谦虚与谦让是传统美德,但与欧美人谈话时,常常容易造成误解。暧昧的回答和世故的微笑还是应该尽量避免,因为欧美人对于这些既不了解也不习惯,因此可能会引起不愉快或造成误解。

3 忌问年龄

年龄对于欧美人是个敏感的问题,特别是对年过三十岁的女人。在现时崇尚年轻的文化中,想到变老是痛苦的事情。大多数的欧美人希望永远保持外貌的年轻。欧美人最忌讳的问话是:"您多大了?"也不要尝试故意说小,奉承对方。

4 忌谈收入

绝对不要问他挣多少钱?如果必须了解的话,你可以问他的工作头衔和行业中 承担的工作。通过这些信息,分析年薪大概多少。