ENGLISH CONVERSATIONS *Made Easy*







Conversation questions, Idioms, Verbal Phrases, Slang, Proverbs, Quotes, Debates, Jokes, Riddles, and thought provoking pictures to stimulate English conversation

JUAN CADENA

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CONVERSATION QUESTIONS, IDIOMS, VERBAL PHRASES, SLANG, PROVERBS, QUOTES, DEBATES, JOKES, RIDDLES, AND THOUGHT PROVOKING PICTURES TO STIMULATE ENGLISH CONVERSATION

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INTRODUCTION

I created this book out of frustration with other English conversation books. Students, especially at a university, often do not want to fully cooperate with questions that seem too easy for them, or that they can answer in brief sentences. As soon as I would hand students a chapter of some other book, they would start a mad dash to see who could answer the questions as quickly as possible. Understandably, as a teacher, this was upsetting, as there was little I could do. Sure, I could ask the students to answer the question correctly, or in a more elongated form but the die had already been cast. They would answer any question as briefly as they could, as quickly as they could.

What is a teacher to do when students finish the thirty questions in 10 minutes instead of the expected 2 hours? I ended up bringing supplementary material to fill up the rest of the time. I searched online for the best ways to teach effective conversation skills. I saw that pictures were often mentioned. Also, idioms, slang, debate, quotes, and riddles. So, I searched online for a book that I could use to teach my classes with and not worry about printing out a ton of sheets. I ended up having to assign my students 4 or 5 books just to have enough material to work with. I need not say that my students were none too pleased. I wanted professional quality material instead of an assortment of mashed up handouts, but there was nothing available!

Out of frustration, I took my summer vacation, holed myself up in a dark room with a creaky fan, and created this book.

This book has everything that an English conversation teacher would need to teach a class. Every unit is enough for at the very least 2 hours of work, no matter how fast students wish to get through a chapter, it’ll be difficult to finish a chapter in less than 2 hours simply due to the sheer breath of material included in every chapter.

This book has over 1500 questions spread over 38 chapters. Besides that, it has 190 idioms, 190 verbal phrases, 190 slang terms, 190 proverbs, 190 quotes, 76 debate questions, 38 riddles, 190 proverbs, 38 motivational quotes, and 38 thought provoking pictures.

What all this means is that in every chapter you’ll have enough material to work with so that you, or your students don’t end up with nothing to say.

CHAPTER ONE

FIRST ENCOUNTERS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the things that you notice about this family?
2. How important are appearances when you first meet someone?
3. What are some tensions you experience when first meeting someone?

4. What are some differences amongst the human races?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

mixed race | homogenous | ethnic | tribal | vernacular

RIDDLE

What is so delicate that even mentioning it breaks it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Who chose your name?
2. Does your name have a special meaning?
3. Have you ever wished you were given a different name?
4. Do you still live in the city of your birth? Why, or why not?
5. Where would you most like to live? Why?
6. What are some personality differences that distinguish you from your family members?
7. How would you describe yourself as a child?
8. What are some of your favorite websites? Why?
9. What movies would you recommend? Why?
10. What is the most exotic pet that you would consider owning?
11. What was the last book you read about?
12. What's a food that you would really want to eat now?
13. When you're alone at home, what do you usually do?
14. Do you have a favorite saying?
15. What are some activities that you like doing outdoors? Why?
16. Do you play any sports? If yes, what makes this sport attractive?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

agreeable | amicable | sociable | courteous | sensitive | frown | impression | hobby | sibling | blunt | patronizing | pathetic | stern | unsympathetic

IDIOMS

(to) look forward to
to await eagerly
Christian, I'm really looking forward to having you bring your family over for dinner.

for a song
cheap, or inexpensively
Victor sold his vintage car for a song after his divorce.

(to be) stressed out
to be anxious, distressed, or afraid of something
Avery, I know you're stressed out, so I booked a vacation for us.

(to) have up one's sleeve
to have some secret plan ready to use
I don't know what you have up your sleeve, but rest assured that we won't go down without a fight.

(to) fine-tune
to increase effectiveness, or performance through small adjustments
Lucas decided to fine-tune the presentation without notifying me first.

VERBAL PHRASES

put up with
tolerate; endure; accept
I can't put up with all your complaining today.

look after
take care of; watch over; protect
You should never look after other people's pets.

catch on to
to understand what is meant, or how to do something
Do you think that nobody will catch on to your dealings?

give way
to yield to someone or something
This bridge is going to give way, so be careful.

carry off
to handle successfully
Did she carry off the presentation?

SLANG

crazy
intense; absurd; fierce; extreme
I knew that Zelma could sometimes be hot-tempered, but what she did last night was just crazy.

creep
an unpleasant, weird, or strange person
You really shouldn't be hanging out with that creep.

cromagnon
an ugly male (refers to caveman)
I don't know what she sees in that cromagnon.

crooked
dishonest; illegal
Grady is the most crooked salesman I've ever met.

deadbeat
a person who tries to evade paying debts
Marcella's a deadbeat, so don't expect to get your money back.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you have a hobby? What interested you in it?
2. What culture do you find interesting? Why?
3. What culture do you find difficult to understand? Why?
4. What countries would you not visit even if someone paid for your flight ticket?
5. What are some things that make you smile?
6. What are some things that upset you?
7. What's something that you do well?
8. What are some of your favorite English words? Why?
9. Do you have any long-term goals? Why have you chosen them?
10. How would your friends describe you?
11. When was the last time you laughed uncontrollably?
12. What did you want to be when you were little?
13. What are some silly mistakes you've done recently?
14. What qualities about your personality would your best friend say they most like about you?

PROVERBS

Pay what you owe and you will know what is your own.

Those who are feared are hated.

If you would keep your secret from an enemy, tell it not to a friend.

The things which hurt, instruct.

The eye of a master will do more work than his hand.

QUOTES

> Be yourself because an original is worth more than a copy.
> unknown

Questions:
1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse.
> Jim Rohn

Questions:
1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more

significant?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Don't wait for the perfect moment, take the moment and make it perfect.
>
> Zoey Sayward

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> I will go anywhere as long as it is forward.
>
> David Livingston

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?

5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> There is more to life than increasing its speed.
> Manhatma Gandi

Questions:
1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

Internet access is a human right.

City governments should house the poor of a city.

FACT

Google's founders were trying to sell their new company to Excite for less than one million dollars. Excite thought it was too much money to pay!

JOKE

Tom: What are you giving your mom and dad for Christmas?
Susan: A list of everything I want.

RIDDLE ANSWER

silence

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

If I try my best and fail, well, I have tried my best.

Steve Jobs



CHAPTER TWO

ART



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Who do you think this man is?
2. Why do you think he's painting this?

3. What do you imagine this painting to symbolize?
4. What kind of life do you think he leads?
5. Can you imagine a day in his life?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

easel | acrylic paint | art critique | asymmetrical | canvas | ceramics | color wheel | contrast | depth | emphasis

RIDDLE

I dig out tiny caves, and store gold and silver in them. I also build bridges of silver and make crowns of gold. They are the smallest you could imagine. Sooner or later everybody needs my help, yet many people are afraid to let me help them. Who am I?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you have a favorite artist? If yes, why?
2. What kind of art do you like? Why?
3. What do you think when you hear the word artist?
4. Do you think artists have a good life?
5. If you were given unlimited funds, what are some “artsy” things that you would do to improve your city?
6. Are there any artistic things you like to do?
7. Where do you think art is going?
8. Do you think old art is better than new art? Why, or why not?
9. Are there any artistic techniques that you enjoy more than others?
10. Where do you think artists get their inspiration?
11. Has an artwork ever related to you personally?
12. What artwork has been inspirational to you?
13. Is there an artwork that has shocked you?

14. Describe some art museums that you have visited.
15. Do you think music, and dance are forms of art? Elaborate
16. Do you visit museums when you travel?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

grandeur | marvel | muse | contemplate | prodigy | untruthfulness | dismiss | ignore | disregard | disbelieve

IDIOMS

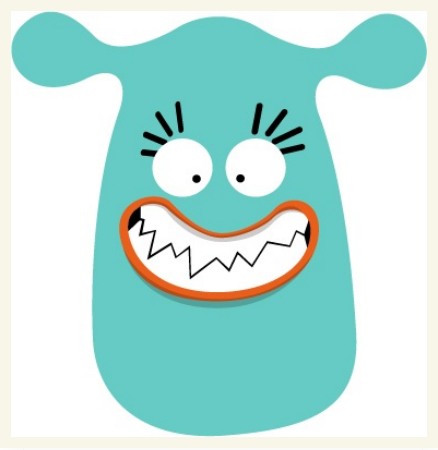
(to) eat one's lunch
to take away one's business; to be better at something than someone else
Gianna and her crew are eating our lunch!

(to) give (someone) a ring
to telephone someone
Leona promised to give her mom a ring, as soon as she arrived to Rome.

(to) split the difference
to share a difference in cost evenly
The seller really wanted to get more, but he knew that Danny wasn't going for it, so he offered to split the difference.

feel free
be unconcerned about doing something; proceed with something unabashedly
So long as you're a guest in my house, feel free to use whatever you need.

(to) cheat on someone
to have a romantic partner in addition to the steady romantic partner
Xavier cheated on Stella with Julia.



VERBAL PHRASES

pull away
move back; retreat; withdraw
She was visibly upset at him, and pulled away, as soon as he tried to grab her.

run out of
to exhaust; to have no more of something
I hope you don't run out of ideas soon.

hold down
to maintain in a fixed position; to keep from escaping
I'm not sure how you were able to hold down the job as long as you did, but congratulations!

come forward
volunteer; give evidence about something
All of you who have succeeded in the game, please come forward.

get into
a situation into which one has gotten involved
Some mean looking people came looking for you. What have you gotten

yourself into?

SLANG

ace
expert; great; virtuoso
Archer is such an ace at sales that his company would go bankrupt, if it weren't for him.

all hell broke loose
chaos; disorder; rioting
I'm not exactly sure what that button was for, but as soon as Tom pushed it, all hell broke lose throughout the city.

all over the place
strewn about; laying chaotically about; dispersed throughout some space
We tried finding the key, but Tom has so much junk all over the place that we couldn't find it.

all right?
inquiry as to how something is going, or how someone is doing (may be used sarcastically)
I can't understand what she's thinking. First, she hits me over the head with a frying pan, and then she asks me, "all right?".

angle
plan; scheme
I'm sure Tom is figuring out an angle to get his car back from his ex wife.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What do you think life would be like without art?

2. Why do you think people become professional artists?
3. Do you think art is important? Why, or why not?
4. What are some designs (architectural, furniture, sculpture) that you like? Why?
5. How does art in your everyday life affect you?
6. Have you ever seen performance art?
7. If you could buy a great work of art, what would it be?
8. What do you think of shock art?
9. Does art imitate life?
10. Are movies a form of art? Elaborate
11. What kind of photography do you enjoy?
12. What are some famous artists that you know of?
13. Do you believe what art critics say?
14. Do you think it's proper to call nude paintings art?

PROVERBS

The sting of a reproach is the truth of it.

A good wife and health is a man's best wealth.

Virtue and happiness are mother and daughter.

A quarrelsome man has no good neighbors.

Many a man would have been worse if his estate had been better.

QUOTES

> I'm selfish, impatient, and a little insecure. I make mistakes, I'm out of control, and at times hard to handle. But if you can't handle me at my worst, then you sure as hell don't deserve me at my best.

Marilyn Monroe

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

Art is an experience, not the formulation of a problem.
Lindsay Anderson

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

Art is a fruit that grows in man, like a fruit on a plant, or a child in its mother's womb.
Jean Arp

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Pictures and shapes are but secondary objects and please or displease only in the memory.
>
> Francis Bacon

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> The primary distinction of the artist is that he must actively cultivate that state which most men, necessarily, must avoid: the state of being alone.
>
> James Baldwin

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?

2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

An engineering education is more beneficial to society than an arts education.

Physical education should be compulsory.

FACT

The richest 20% of the world use up 86% of its goods, while the poorest 20% consume just 1.3%

JOKE

Susie: I'm writing a letter to my dog Fido.
Jenny: But you don't know how to write.
Susie: That's okay. Fido doesn't know how to read!

RIDDLE ANSWER

The Dentist

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Build your own dreams, or someone else will hire you to build theirs.

—Farrah Gray



CHAPTER THREE

MOVIES



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you know this theater?
2. What are some interesting movie theaters you've been to?

3. When you hear the word Hollywood, what do you imagine?
4. Have you ever seen a celebrity?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

Chinese theater | walk of fame | hand prints | critic | premiere

RIDDLE

Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What film has made you feel happy, sad?
2. What is a touching movie scene that you can recall?
3. What movie made you think about the world around you?
4. Have you ever watched a movie more than twice? Which one?
5. What movie is very popular with people you know?
6. What movie that you know has a great cast?
7. What movie genre do you enjoy most? least?
8. What movie has a great plot?
9. What movie frightened you?
10. What movie do you think should be banned?
11. Can you think of a movie that was good in different categories?
12. What makes your favorite movie memorable?
13. Did you have a favorite movie as a child? Teenager?
14. Who are your favorite actors?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

cinema | feature | talkie | silver screen | cinematography | word of mouth | cast | director | animation | sequel | soundtrack | outline | representation | hazy | factual |

drawing

IDIOMS

just browsing
looking at the goods of shops without necessarily intending to buy anything
I'm just browsing the shops, because I have no money.

(to) swing by
to make a quick visit
I would very much like to see you, Diana, so swing by as soon as you get the chance.

(to) get something underway
to start or begin something
Landon was resolved to get the tasks for the day underway by dawn.

(to) get rid of
to dispose of; to discard; to do away with
Jessica got rid of all the presents that Oliver had given her.

(to be) out of practice
no longer good, or skilled at something
I think Liam is out of practice, since he isn't scoring as quickly as he once did.

VERBAL PHRASES

watch out for
to be careful about; to stay alert for
Please watch out for bugs, and report them as soon as you see them.

end up

to become eventually; to turn out to be
You will end up alone, if you don't learn how to behave.

play up
to emphasize, or highlight; to make more prominent
She is playing up his deficiencies to gain sympathy.

fall out
to quarrel; at odds; to become estranged
Eileen and Andreas fell out after that last quarrel they had.

ask about
to inquire about something
Have you asked about the specifications on this product?

SLANG

luck out
to be fortunate; to achieve something by chance
We still don't know how he did it, but he really lucked out.

Machiavellian
a cunning, deceitful person
Good luck getting anything past him. He's Machiavellian.

make a run at
to attempt; try
Although it's not my first choice, we'll make a run at it, and if it doesn't work, we'll go with our first option.

make waves
to create difficulty (negative)

Look! Stop yapping, otherwise you're gonna make waves that you're going to regret.

mess up
to miscalculate, blunder, or err
Hank, look carefully at the details before you initiate, otherwise you'll mess up.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. How do you decide which movie to see?
2. Do you think movies can influence people’s behavior?
3. What is the worst movie you’ve seen?
4. Do you read movie reviews before watching a movie?
5. Have you ever walked out of a movie?
6. If asked, would you want to be in a movie?
7. Are there any movies that you think everyone should see?
8. What movie has taught you something? What?
9. What do you think about documentaries?
10. Has a documentary shocked you?
11. Do you think documentaries serve a good purpose in society?
12. If you could be a “bad guy” in a movie, who would you like to be?
13. How important is technology to a good movie?
14. What kind of movies should there be more of?
15. What super powers would be great to have?
16. What draws you into a movie, the acting, the plot, or the action?

PROVERBS

If you would have a faithful servant and one that you like — serve yourself.

What maintains one vice would bring up two children.

Fools make feasts and wise men eat them.

Who dainties love shall beggars prove.

Buy what thou has no need of and ere long thou shall sell thy necessaries.

QUOTES

> I would rather entertain and hope that people learned something than educate people and hope they were entertained.
>
> Walt Disney

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Every country gets the circus it deserves. Spain gets bullfights. Italy gets the Catholic Church. America gets Hollywood.
>
> Erica Jong

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?

2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> I believe entertainment can aspire to be art, and can become art, but if you set out to make art you're an idiot.
>
> Steve Martin

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The essential is to excite the spectators. If that means playing Hamlet on a flying trapeze or in an aquarium, you do it.
>
> Orson Welles

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you reword the quote?

> The ultimate sin of any performer is contempt for the audience.
>
> Lester Bangs

Questions:
1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you reword the quote?

DEBATE

Government should be run like a business.

Should rich nations give aid to poor nations?

FACT

If you ever get sick in India, you can as a local Hindu person for a nice warm cup of cow urine. Some Hindus drink cow urine for it's believed medicinal qualities.

JOKE

Q: What bird steals soap from the bathtub?
A: Robber ducks.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Mt. Everest: it just wasn't discovered yet

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Believe you can and you’re halfway there.
> —Theodore Roosevelt



CHAPTER FOUR

DATING



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you think this would be a good spot for a date?

2. What fun activities are there to do in your city for a date?
3. What are some difficulties that people commonly experience on a first date?
4. What is the worst date you've been on?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

crush | admirer | stroll | moonlight | fireworks | enchanting evening

RIDDLE

What is Bruce Lee's favorite drink?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some things that attract you in a partner?
2. Would you want your significant other to tell you that they were considering significantly changing their hairstyle or appearance?
3. How do you feel about a significant other with tattoos?
4. Do you think that you tend to attract a certain type of person?
5. Imagine your spouse becomes blind 6 months into the marriage. What would you do?
6. Do you believe in love at first sight?
7. What would you do, if you’re partner wanted to wear matching outfits?
8. If you were to write a personal ad, and had to describe yourself, what would you write?
9. How much do you care about the dress style of your partner?
10. How do you feel about women wearing makeup?
11. What are some physical flaws that would lead you to divorce someone?
12. If you could change one thing to make you more attractive, what would you change?



CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

lover | admirer | spark | sweetheart | follower | rival | adversary | vying | struggle | oppose

IDIOMS

I’m starving
very hungry; famished
Renee, I'm starving, so I hope you're nearly finished making dinner.

(to) beef up
to improve; to add to; to fortify
Anthony was in charge of beefing up security at this entrance.

(to have) mixed feelings
to be uncertain of; to have no sureness

I hope James doesn't have mixed feelings about what he promised to do.

(to) get by
to survive; to live from
I hope Kate can get by in New York.

(to) drop by
to visit unexpectedly; to come around without notice
Austin will drop by with a pizza later.

VERBAL PHRASES

bear down on
to exert downward pressure on somebody or something
I have all sorts of things bearing down on me now, so leave me alone.

feel up to
to consider yourself ready for something; to be willing to do something
Do you feel up to going to the beach?

sink in
to become fully understood
You won't fully understand it, until you let it sink in.

fall behind
to be late in doing something; to fail to keep up with something, or somebody
You better hurry with your tasks, or you'll fall behind.

be up for
to want to do something
What are you up for next weekend?

SLANG

buff
someone who has defined muscles
Nancy, you're looking buff.

bug
to annoy; pester
Gregory, Kathy said that she didn't take your files so stop bugging her about it.

bull
something is made up; a lie; bogus
Lisa, that story you just made up is bull, and you know it.

busta
a person who presents himself as tough, but who really isn't.
Frank is a busta. Rough him up a little and you'll see how he squeals.

buzz kill
someone or thing that ruins one's enjoyment
Shirley's glare is a buzz kill.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What would a perfect date by like?
2. What is the worst blind date that you, or one of your friends, has been on?
3. Have you ever hated loving someone?
4. Have you ever gone on a date that you hated?
5. Do you believe in a perfect relationship?
6. What are some popular places to go on a date?
7. What do you consider cheating on someone?
8. What was the most interesting date you've been on?

9. Would you mind if your partner went to a party with someone?
10. Would you ever date a friend's ex partner?
11. How do you dress up for a first date?
12. What is an intimate relationship for you?
13. Do you think an age difference is important?
14. When would you (did you) introduce your partner to your family?
15. What do you think about internet dating?
16. Have you ever met a great person while traveling?
17. Have you ever given a gift back to you ex partner?
18. Where would you go with a partner if you could go anywhere in the world?

PROVERBS

In the affairs of this world men are saved, not by faith, but by the want of it.

Friendship cannot live with ceremony, nor without civility.

Men and melons are hard to know.

The thrifty maxim of the wary Dutch, is to save all the money they can touch.

It is better to take many injuries than to give one.

QUOTES

> Love is a great beautifier.
> Louisa May Alcott

Questions:
1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?

3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Women wish to be loved not because they are pretty, or good, or well bred, or graceful, or intelligent, but because they are themselves.
>
> Henri Frederic Amiel

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> In a great romance, each person plays a part the other really likes.
>
> Elizabeth Ashley

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a

new quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Accept the things to which fate binds you, and love the people with whom fate brings you together, but do so with all your heart.
>
> Marcus Aurelius

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> In nine cases out of ten, a woman had better show more affection than she feels.
>
> Jane Austen

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the

quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

DEBATE

Single-sex schools are good for education.

Some people should be restrained from parenthood.

FACT

In India, some recently widowed women would immolate themselves on their husband's funeral pyre. The name of the practice is sati.

JOKE

Susan: My sister caught her boyfriend flirting.
Joan: That's how my sister caught her boyfriend, too.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Waa-taa! (Water)

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Arise, awake, stop not until your goal is achieved.
> —Swami Vivekananda


See you
next time!

CHAPTER FIVE

EXPENDITURES



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. How much are you affected by taxes in your everyday life?
2. Are taxes an efficient way to run the government?
3. Can business people be relied on to honestly report their earnings?

4. What are some problems that the tax system causes?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

chart | analysis | expenditures | outflows | volatility | fund manager | stocks | bonds | capital | spreadsheet | interest | taxes | dividends

RIDDLE

You answer me, but I never ask you a question. What am I?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Are you frugal? Why or why not?
2. How much do you spend everyday?
3. Do you usually budget your money?
4. What was the hardest time you've had, as concerns money?
5. When you need to make an expensive purchase, how do you go about paying for it?
6. Do you ever buy second-hand things?
7. Do you ever give money as charity?
8. How often do you haggle?
9. Is having credit important?
10. Have you ever regretted borrowing money?
11. Have you ever found money?
12. Have you ever had money stolen from you?
13. How important is money?
14. If you had an unlimited amount of money, what would you do with your life?
15. How much is too much to pay for entertainment in a normal week?
16. What is something you spend money on that you really shouldn't?
17. What would you like to buy, but can't?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

costly | uneconomical | invaluable | dear | pricey | economical | worthless | cheap | competitive | budget

IDIOMS

don’t sweat it
don't worry about it
Don't sweat it Jack, it'll be over and done with in a day or so.

(to) have a lot in common
to share similar likes; to have similar backgrounds
It's no wonder Bessie and Albert hit it off, they have a lot in common.

off one’s rocker
irrational; crazy
Joseph, if you think I'm going to help you pull that off, you're off your rocker.

small talk
a not serious conversation
Pearl, one of the first things to do with someone you just meet, is to initiate small talk to see if there's anything in common.

(to) not be crazy about
to not like very much
Nichole, I know you're not crazy about the idea, but do it anyway.

VERBAL PHRASES

keep up
to maintain something at its present level; persist in

Always keep up with whatever makes you happy.

stand out
exceptionally good; remarkable
Nothing at this gallery stands out.

bang on about
talk incessantly about
Gareth likes banging on about his past glories.

run into
to meet, or encounter someone accidentally
If you run into Leonard, say hello to him for me.

set up
to put something in readiness
Can you set up the system?

SLANG

chancy
doubtful; unsure
I'm telling you that it's chancy, so if you still want to proceed, do it on your own.

check that
remove last item from list, or consideration
I ordered 5 cars for the trip, but check that, and get 8.

cheers
used to give tribute, or salute
Cheers to you all, who made this possible.

chewed (out)
berate; thrash; punish
He was chewed out by his girlfriend, because he forgot their anniversary.

chill
relax; enjoy
I told Jane to chill, but she's still yelling at everyone for some reason or other.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What's the most expensive thing you've ever bought? (exclude home and car)
2. What was the last gift you bought for yourself?
3. What was the most money you've spent buying something to wear?
4. What's your favorite shopping place?
5. In a marriage, how should money be managed?
6. What qualities do you imagine a person must have to become rich?
7. If you found a large amount of money on the street, what would you do with it?
8. What is the most expensive gift you've ever bought for someone?
9. Has anyone you've known ever won the lottery?
10. What do you think are reasons for which some people are poor?
11. What is something that you bought but immediately regretted buying?
12. Have you ever lent money to someone?
13. Who wouldn't you lend money to?

PROVERBS

Would you persuade, speak of interest, not of reason.

He that waits on fortune is never sure of a dinner.

A slip of the foot you may soon recover, but a slip of the tongue you may never

get over.

A house without woman and firelight is like a body without soul or spirit.

Do good to thy friend to hold him, to thy enemy to gain him.

QUOTES

> All the perplexities, confusions, and distresses in America arise, not from defects in their constitution or confederation, not from a want of honor or virtue, so much as from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation.
>
> John Adams

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> The happiest moments of my life have been the few which I have past at home in the bosom of my family. public employment contributes neither to advantage nor happiness. It is but honorable exile from ones family and affairs.
>
> Thomas Jefferson

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?

2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> If we lose the virile, manly qualities, and sink into a nation of mere hucksters, putting gain over national honor, and subordinating everything to mere ease of life, then we shall indeed reach a condition worse than that of the ancient civilizations in the years of their decay.
>
> Theodore Roosevelt

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you editorialize the quote.
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Ability without honor is useless.
>
> Marcus Tullius Cicero

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?

2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> He who would pass his declining years with honor and comfort, should, when young, consider that he may one day become old, and remember when he is old, that he has once been young.
>
> Joseph Addison

Questions:
1. What can we assume the author's intentions were?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

DEBATE

The government should provide public hospitals.

Teachers should not use candies as rewards.

FACT

The Rock accidentally knocked out Michael Clarke Duncan while filming a fight

scene for The Scorpion King and hat a custom Rolex made as an apology gift, but he liked the watch so much that he kept it.

JOKE

Mom: My goodness, Tom, who gave you that black eye?
Tom: No one gave it to me. I had to fight for it!

RIDDLE ANSWER

A telephone

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> All great achievements require time.
> —Maya Angelou



CHAPTER SIX

FOOD AND DRINK



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. How safe is it eating in places like this?

2. What are some interesting treats you can find in markets such as this?
3. Have you ever had a bad experience in a location such as this?
4. Should the government regulate these businesses, or should the market decide what is acceptable?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

food stall | lantern | promenade | outdoor market | plaza

RIDDLE

Why was the math book sad?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you drink coffee or tea in the morning?
2. Do you eat at the same time everyday?
3. What do you think about vegetarians?
4. What foods are you good at cooking?
5. What are some foods that you've tried cooking, but failed?
6. Do you eat a lot of sweet food?
7. How often do you eat snacks?
8. What kind of meat is your favorite?
9. What is your favorite fruit?
10. What is your favorite vegetable?
11. What are your favorite dishes?
12. What are your favorite foreign dishes?
13. What is your favorite restaurant?
14. Do you dislike any restaurant? Why?
15. Are there any foods associated to special occasions such as weddings, birthdays, religious festivities? If yes, what are they?
16. What do you think of fasting?

17. Do you avoid any types of food due to some religious or health reasons?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

devour | finish off | gulp | savor | nibble | chef | edible | fast | feast | blandness | dull | flavorless | insipid | flatness

IDIOMS

(to) build something from the ground up
to develop some venture from the beginning; to create some operation from nothing
Cole is determined to build something from the ground up that will be revolutionary.

(to be) in good hands
in the care of someone skilled, or competent
Don't worry, I'm sure you're in good hands with Zoe.

Not a chance!
no way; that is not possible
Brian, your request will not happen. Not a chance!

(to) get (something) straight
to clarify; to understand
Let me get this straight, Jack threw cold water on Bella?

(to) doze off
to fall asleep
During the presentation, Vivian was dozing off, and now that it's over she's as alert as ever.

VERBAL PHRASES

deal with
to handle; to occupy, or be concerned with something or someone
You are always complaining, but this time you're going to have to deal with any repercussions.

put aside
to stop using; to disregard; to forget about
Please put aside your ill feelings, and let's work on this together.

talk over
to consider thoroughly in conversation; discuss
I know you really hate him, so I'll talk over your issues with him later this week.

make up to
to try to regain someone's favor, usually after some mistake
I don't know how you're going to do it, but you're going to have to make it up to me.

close down
to cease to operate, or cause to cease operating
She closed down her shop, after nobody wanted to buy flowers anymore.



SLANG

didgy
evasively tricky
Although you caught Elma in the room, she's didgy, and you won't find any of the stolen goods on her.

dingus
some thing, or gadget
I don't know what that dingus is called.

dish out
to give out something freely such as, criticism, punishment, or advice

Adele really dished out a whole lot of things she's been meaning to say to Wilson, but never had the courage to.

diss
to disrespect; be discourteous
As soon as Simon gets angry, he likes to diss everyone for no reason.

do a number on
to harm or deceive someone
He's all broken up. I guess she really did a number on him.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you seek out new food to eat?
2. What is a food that you could see yourself eating everyday?
3. What is the most disgusting meal or food you've ever had?
4. Do you prefer to eat at a restaurant or a home? Why?
5. Do you read nutritional information on foods you buy?
6. Do you think fast food, soda, and sweets should be sold in school cafeterias?
7. What is the most expensive meal you've ever had?
8. What are some cheap meals you can easily find?
9. What are some foods that you know that you shouldn't eat but that you eat anyway?
10. Are there any foods that you eat when you are feeling sad?
11. What food do you eat most often?
12. What kind of beverages do you usually drink?
13. What are some of your favorite foods that your mother has made for you?
14. If you could choose your last meal, what would it be?
15. Have you ever found anything disgusting in your food? How did you deal with it?
16. Which food do you consider overpriced?

PROVERBS

Industry, perseverance, and frugality make fortune yield.

Fear to do ill, and you need fear nought else.

Seek virtue, and of that possess, To providence resign the rest.

Many would live by their wits, but break for want of stock.

Anger and folly walk cheek by jowl; Repentance treads on both their heels.

QUOTES

> We seldom report of having eaten too little.
>
> Thomas Jefferson

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Some people have a foolish way of not minding, or pretending not to mind, what they eat. For my part, I mind my belly very studiously, and very carefully; for I look upon it, that he who does not mind his belly, will hardly mind anything else.
>
> Samuel Johnson

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> He who cannot eat horsemeat need not do so. Let him eat pork. But he who cannot eat pork, let him eat horsemeat. It's simply a question of taste.
>
> Nikita Khrushchev

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Ask your child what he wants for dinner only if he's buying.
>
> Fran Lebowitz

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What choice of words would you have made?

3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> We are digging our graves with our teeth.
> Thomas Moffett

Questions:
1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

DEBATE

Government lotteries should be ended.

Animals should have rights.

FACT

Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak were not the only founders of Apple, there was a third called, Ronald Wayne who sold 10% of apple for $800 dollars in 1976.

JOKE

Q: Why did the picture go to jail?
A: Because it was framed.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Because it had so many problems

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.
> —Martin Luther King Jr.



CHAPTER SEVEN

LIKES AND DISLIKES



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. If you were to interpret the emotions on the doll's faces, what would you interpret them to be?
2. Do you think dolls are useful to some people? If yes, in what ways?
3. Can you create a short story with these two dolls as characters?
4. Have you ever anthropomorphized any object? If so, what?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

porcelain doll | grimace | eyelashes | elf | fantasy

RIDDLE

The more it dries, the wetter it gets. What is it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What is your favorite beverage?
2. What kind of car do you like?
3. What season do you like?
4. Do you like morning or night best?
5. Do you like wearing sandals or going barefoot while at home?
6. Do you like dining in or take-out?
7. What pet do you prefer, dog or cat?
8. What's form of entertainment do you like?
9. Do you like to have pictures taken of you?
10. Do you like being indoors or outdoors?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

revel in | appreciate | welcome | enjoy | delight | detest | lack | disparage | overlook | criticize

IDIOMS

(to) lose one's head
to behave uncharacteristically; to lose control of one's behavior
Charlie really lost his head, after Marlene laughed at his mother.

(to) go the extra mile
to do more than what is expected, or required
Frank is always going the extra mile for his students.

(to) learn one’s lesson
to change one's behavior due to some experience
I guess you really learned your lesson, Kelly, after finding a little more than you bargain for in Alex's closet.

in a bind
in a difficult situation
Katrina, I'm currently in a bind, so I would really appreciate your cooperation.

(to be or to get) bent out of shape
to get or to be very angry about something
Tom's all bend out of shape over a dispute he had with his girlfriend.



count on
to depend on, or rely on something, or someone
You can count on this team to bring about a marked change in your company.

start out
to begin; set off; to undertake
I heard that Leo started out at the lowest rank.

think about
to ponder; to consider
If you think about all the possible repercussions, you won't do it.

come by
to visit casually, or unexpectedly
If you've got any new ideas, please come by, and we'll discuss them.

take away
a key fact, point, or idea to be remembered
What did you take away from the conference?

SLANG

hyena
a despicable person
Nobody wants to talk to you, because you're a hyena.

in too deep
overextended; placing one's self into a difficult situation
I feel you're in too deep with this, so please cut away while you still have a chance.

jerked around

misled; fooled; conned
Matthew got jerked around by the huckster.

jinxed
brings bad luck to; giver of bad luck
Isaac is going to see a priest, because he thinks he's cursed.

John Hancock
signature
Everything will be over, as soon as you put your John Hancock on the dotted line.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you like old movies?
2. Do you like actors from other countries?
3. Do you like foreign films?
4. Do you like children?
5. Do you like drinking cold water?
6. Do you like to hear people out?
7. Do you like going out or staying in?
8. Do you like watching documentary shows?
9. Do you like anime or manga?
10. Do you like people who pretend to be nice?
11. Do you like people that are smarter than you?
12. Do you like working with others?

PROVERBS

How few there are who have courage enough to own their faults, or resolution enough to mend them.

An open foe may prove a curse but a pretended friend is worse.

In success be moderate.

Humility makes great men twice honourable.

Blessed is he who expects nothing for he shall never be disappointed.

QUOTES

> I dislike arguments of any kind. They are always vulgar, and often convincing.
>
> Oscar Wilde

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> I was part of that strange race of people aptly described as spending their lives doing things they detest to make money they don't want to buy things they don't need to impress people they dislike.
>
> Emile Henry Gauvreau

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> To like and dislike the same things, this is what makes a solid friendship.
>
> Sallust

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Enjoy the journey, enjoy ever moment, and quit worrying about winning and losing.
>
> Matt Biondi

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?

2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> If a man who enjoys a lesser happiness beholds a greater one, let him leave aside the lesser to gain the greater.
>
> Buddha

Questions:
1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

DEBATE

All citizens who do not vote should pay a fine.

Parents should be allowed to choose the sex of their children.

FACT

Jean Baptiste Mouron of Toulon, France served as a galley slave for 100 years and a day!

JOKE

Q: How do you catch a squirrel?
A: Climb a tree and act like a nut.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A towel

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.
> —Albert Einstein



CHAPTER EIGHT

SPORTS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What are some healthy sports for children to play?
2. How much time should children devote to physical activities per day?
3. What common children activities do you think are dangerous for children?
4. Should all children be required to be physically active?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

uniform | youth league | pass | goalie | formation

RIDDLE

When is homework not homework?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What sport would you like to know more about?
2. Are there any sports that you think are dangerous?
3. Did your high school have a good sports team?
4. Do you like to exercise?
5. Do you think golf is a sport?
6. Do you think athletes earn enough money?
7. Do you think everybody should practice sports?
8. In what ways do you think sports help teamwork outside of the playing field?
9. Have you ever played sports with your parents?
10. Do you know how to swim?
11. Do you think professional sports are too commercialized?
12. What do you think is the best sport to develop one's body?
13. What do you think is the most challenging sport for a human body?
14. What sports are fun doing but not watching on TV?
15. When was the last time you went to watch a game in person?
16. Which sport would you not let your child play?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

dash | diving | spinning | free kick | cross-country | equipment | rival | fan | score | competition | bet | laziness | passive | torpid | unready

IDIOMS

(to) suck it up
to endure something without complaint; to deal with something one does not like
I know it was a heavy blow, but you should suck it up.

(to) do a 180
to do, or think something opposite of what was thought or done previously; to improve a lot; to turn around
Clara was about to confess everything, but she did a 180 after her lawyer hinted at her that the prosecution had no evidence.

(to) take a peek
to look at briefly
Floyd, I'm sure Elsie won't mind, if we take a peek at what she's preparing for us.

(to) get off track
to digress; to lose main focus; to get off subject
Andrew, I don't want to get off track, but you really need to focus on your behavior.

(to) have one's heart set on
to really want something; to crave
Lawrence has his heart set on getting that car, no matter what.

VERBAL PHRASES

set off
to cause to occur; to indicate as being different
Bruce set off the fire alarm with all his cooking.

put away
to discard; to stop using, or working on something until a later time
Please put away your socks.

think of
to remember; to contemplate
Vivian, you should think of an experience you've had in Europe, before you answer that question.

carry on
to continue an activity, or task
Don't mind me, and carry on with your tasks.

go for
to decide, or choose an option; to attempt to gain or attain
If you would rather do something else, go for it.

SLANG

slick
a slippery person; one not easily entrapped, or found fault with because of their cunning
Nolan is a slick one.

slob
an untidy, and lazy person
That slob has been home all week doing nothing!

smarts
intelligence
Please don't ask him to help you. You know that he doesn't have the smarts.

so so
of average quality; neither good, nor bad
You've already asked me if the drink was good, and I've already told you it was

so so.

sore
distress; sorrowful; angry
Joseph is sore because he lost, so let's not bother with him.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. How do you feel about extreme sports?
2. What do you think about sports gambling?
3. If you could prohibit any sport from taking place, which one would it be?
4. What do you do to keep fit?
5. What is a great winter sport to play?
6. Who do you think is the best all around athlete?
7. Do you think it’s fair to criticize individual team members for the results of the team as a whole?
8. How much of an effect do you think trainers have in the individual performance of an athlete?
9. What do you think about American football?
10. Do you think sumo wrestling is entertaining?
11. How hard would you have to train to get into optimum health?
12. Should overweight people be forced to exercise by society?
13. What should a mother do if her child is overweight?



PROVERBS

The wise man draws more advantage from his enemies than the fool from his friends.

A learned blockhead is a greater blockhead than an ignorant one.

The learned fool writes his nonsense in better languages than the unlearned; but still it is nonsense.

When befriended, remember it; When you befriend, forget it.

He that lives upon hope will die fasting.

QUOTES

If luck weren't involved, I'd win every tournament!

Phil Hellmuth

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

Bullfighting is the only art in which the artist is in danger of death and in which the degree of brilliance in the performance is left to the fighter's honor.

Ernest Hemingway

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom.

General George Patton

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Durability is part of what makes a great athlete.
>
> Bill Russell

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Sports serve society by providing vivid examples of excellence.
>
> George Will

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How can the quote influence someone?

3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

DEBATE

Is the boarding school system beneficial to children?

Schools should require students to learn arts and music.

FACT

Nintendo started out producing playing cards.

JOKE

Q: Why did the man put his money in the freezer?
A: He wanted cold hard cash!

RIDDLE ANSWER

When it's turned into the teacher

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.
>
> —Maria Robinson


See you
next time!

CHAPTER NINE

SELF



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think about this picture?
2. How often do you take selfies?
3. Have you taken any creative photographs?
4. What do you think makes a good photographer?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

lens | shutter | flash | focus | reflection

RIDDLE

What do you always accumulate, but you never get rid of?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. How different would you be if there wasn’t any criticism in the world?
2. What worries you the most about the future?
3. We’re always making choices. What are some choices you are making for yourself, and what are some choices others are making for you?
4. Would you break the law to save a loved one?
5. What one piece of advice would you offer a newborn child?
6. Have you been the kind of friend you’d want as one?
7. What is the one activity, job, or action that could get you out of bed happily for the rest of your life? Are you doing it now?
8. When it’s all said and done, will you have said more than you’ve done?
9. What are you most grateful for?
10. Who has had the greatest impact on your life?
11. We learn from our mistakes, yet we’re always so afraid to make any. What would you do if you couldn't fail?
12. What are the top five things you cherish most in your life?
13. Do you find yourself influencing your world, or is it influencing you?
14. Does it really matter what others think about you?
15. Are you doing what you believe in or settling for what you’re doing?
16. What’s the one thing you’d like others to remember about you at the end of your life?
17. At what time in your recent past have you felt most alive?
18. How many of your friends would you trust with your life?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

guy | gal | soul | spirit | being | inanimate | abstract | animal | spiritless | dead



IDIOMS

(to) hang in there
to persevere; to persist; to press on
Jack, at this point looking confused, could take no more of the match, but he hung in there since life had never taught him to do anything else.

(to) count on someone
to depend or rely on someone; to be expectant on someone
Eliana was foolish to count on Parker, since he's always out drinking with his friends.

through the roof
higher than expected
Bessie's blood pressure went through the roof, after she found out her husband, Clarence, gambled away all their money.

(to) have in mind
to be thinking of
What do you have in mind concerning the remodeling, Lizzie?

(to be on a) winning streak
a series of wins
Matilda's winning streak came to an end, when all the customers wanted their money back.

VERBAL PHRASES

see off
to be present at the departure of
I'll walk you to the terminal and see you off.

break in
to force entry into something
Jonas broke into my computer somehow.

come across
to meet, or find by chance
If you keep going down that path, you'll come across a lovely garden.

make it up to
to compensate for something lost, or missed
I'm sorry that I wasn't there for you last week, but I'll make it up to you this week.

keep at
to persist with
Just keep at it, Irene, and you'll soon get the hang of it.

SLANG

showoff

someone who acts pretentiously, or who publicly parades themselves, their possessions, or their accomplishments
Gemma has a new wardrobe, after all these years of hoping for one, and now she's a showoff.

sick
awesome; wonderful; mind-blowing
That performance was sick.

sicko
a severely disturbed person; a person who does something very disagreeable, or disgusting
If you want to go out with that sicko, go ahead! but don't say I didn't warn you.

sidelined
remove from center of activity, or attention; to make less influential
Although Elliot was the best player last year, he was sidelined this year.

size up
evaluate; look over; gauge the qualities of something or someone
The tailor can size you up in a second.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. When was the last time that you pushed the boundaries of your comfort zone?
2. What have you given up on accomplishing in your life?
3. What is your greatest strength? Have any of your recent actions demonstrated this strength?
4. Do any of the things that used to upset you a few years ago matter at all today? What’s changed?
5. What small act of kindness were you once shown that you will never forget?
6. Have you made someone smile today?

7. What would you say is one thing you'd like to change in the world?
8. If joy became the national currency, what kind of work would make you wealthy?
9. To what degree have you actually controlled the course your life has taken?
10. What do you most connect with?
11. Why do you think we do things we dislike and like the things we never seem to do?
12. If this were the last day of your life, would you want to do what you are about to do today?
13. What are you avoiding?
14. Would you steal to feed a starving child?

PROVERBS

He that has a trade has an estate.

The noblest question in the world is What good may I do in it?

Sell not virtue to purchase wealth nor liberty to purchase power.

Nothing brings more pain than too much pleasure; nothing more bondage than too much liberty.

Wink at small faults; remember thou hast great ones.

QUOTES

> Our value is the sum of our values.
> Joe Batten

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> I prefer to be true to myself, even at the hazard of incurring the ridicule of others, rather than to be false, and to incur my own abhorrence.
>
> Frederick Douglass

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> It is easy to live for others, everybody does. I call on you to live for yourselves.
>
> Ralph Waldo Emerson

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> They cannot take away our self-respect if we do not give it to them.
>
> Mahatma Gandhi

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> You are indebted to you imagination for three-fourths of your importance.
>
> David Garrick

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?

2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

DEBATE

A parent shouldn't pierce a baby's ears.

Are humans too dependent on computers?

FACT

Simon Cowell briefly worked as a runner in Stanley Kubrick's The Shining. He polished Jack Nicholson's axe.

JOKE

Q: What did the 500-pound canary say as he walked down the street?
A: "Here, kitty, kitty."

RIDDLE ANSWER

Age

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.
> —Chinese Proverb


See you
next time!

CHAPTER TEN

FRIENDSHIPS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What are some memories you have of childhood friends?
2. What are some interesting stories from your childhood?
3. In what ways has childhood changed from when you were a child?

4. What are some difficulties children face nowadays?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

blood brother | fraternal | best friend | rival | betrayal

RIDDLE

What occurs once in every minute, twice in every moment, but never in a thousand years?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Can you describe a close friend of yours?
2. Have you ever had a long distance friend?
3. Do you think it's a good idea to borrow money from a friend?
4. What are some fun things that you did with your friends when you were little?
5. How are your friendships different from when you were younger?
6. Why do best friends sometimes "drift apart?"
7. How can one maintain good friendships?
8. Nowadays, what are some common things that you do with friends?
9. What is the longest friendship you've had?
10. What are some things that you've broken a friendship over?
11. Where would you go about meeting friends, if you suddenly lost all your friends?
12. Is it possible to remain on good terms with an ex partner?
13. Have you ever had a serious misunderstanding with one of your friends?
14. What are some things that you and your best friend have in common?
15. Do you have different groups of friends that never interact with one another?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

rapport | attachment | regard | consonance | affinity | drift apart | betray | supportive | pal | dislike | enmity | discord | neglect | impartiality

IDIOMS

worth one’s while
worthy of one's effort or time
Pearl, if you ask anyone about it, you'll come to know it's worth your while.

(to be) sick and tired of
sickened, or disgusted by monotony
Luke, I'm sick and tired of your complaints.

food for thought
something to ponder
Mark, your analysis of the situation has really given us food for thought.

(to) dream up
to come up, or think up some original idea, or something unusual; to invent
Piper dreams up all kinds of outlandish stories.

suit yourself
do as you please
Gabriella, all I can say to your refusal is, suit yourself.

VERBAL PHRASES

go on about
to talk about something for too long, or in a boring way
Why do you always go on about topics nobody but you is interested in?

fall for

be deceived, or swindled by
You always fall for your ex's tricks.

turn to
consult; appeal to; ask for help from
If you need help, turn to page 200.

sort out
to arrange some collection according to class, kind, or size
Have you sorted out all the assignments that you need to do today?

burn up
to make someone angry
It really burns Bruno up to see his ex fall in love so quickly.

SLANG

dough
money; currency
Nick, I'm really hoping that I could borrow some dough from you.

drag
escort out of; take out of some place by force
Abe, I really think that Leslie will get someone to drag you out of here, if you don't leave.

drama queen
overly emotional person; person who has outbursts of uncontrollable emotions
Ella becomes a drama queen, after even the slightest insult.

dream up
to form mentally; to conceive mentally; concoct

You're back, Lorena, despite all the bull stories you dreamt up last time you were here.

eager beaver
an annoyingly diligent, and hardworking person.
Give the work to the eager beaver and let's grab a bite.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you argue with your friends?
2. Can teachers and students be close friends?
3. To what extent can a parent be a friend to a child?
4. Do you think the relationships in the family affect one’s ability to make friendships outside the family?
5. What bad qualities or behaviors do some of your friends have?
6. What are some special things your friends have done for you?
7. Have you ever done anything dangerous with any of your friends?
8. What type of people do you usually get along with?
9. What would your friends from your younger years say about you now?
10. What do friends of your friends do that annoy you?
11. What are some things that you don’t really enjoy doing but you do for your friend?
12. What are some things that you've learned from your friends that has benefited you?
13. Have you ever had to sacrifice something for one of your friends?
14. Have you ever done something good for one of your friends but not told them about it?
15. Should friends have “rules” amongst themselves?

PROVERBS

Life with fools consists in drinking; with the wise man, living’s thinking.

Who is strong? He that can conquer his bad habits.

Dine with little, sup with less: Do better still; sleep supperless.

A man in a passion rides a mad horse.

The wise man draws more advantage from his enemies, than the fool from his friends.

QUOTES

> Friendship is the source of the greatest pleasures, and without friends even the most agreeable pursuits become tedious.
>
> Thomas Aquinas

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. How effective is the quote in affecting you? Why?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> In poverty and other misfortunes of life, true friends are a sure refuge. The young they keep out of mischief; to the old they are a comfort and aid in their weakness, and those in the prime of life they incite to noble deeds.
>
> Aristotle

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Nothing so fortifies a friendship as a belief on the part of one friend that he is superior to the other.
>
> Honore de Balzac

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. What choice of words would you have made?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Acquaintance: a degree of friendship called slight when its object is poor or obscure, and intimate when he is rich or famous.
>
> Ambrose Bierce

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the

idea embodied in the quote?
2. What choice of words would you have made?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> A puppy plays with every pup he meets, but an old dog has few associates.
> Josh Billings

Questions:
1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

The sale of human organs should be legalized.

High school students should wear uniforms.

FACT

English used to be spoken by mainly the lower classes. The upper classes spoke French.

JOKE

Q: What music are balloons scared of?
A: Pop music.

RIDDLE ANSWER

The letter M

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.
> —Christopher Columbus



CHAPTER ELEVEN

VOTING



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think is going on in this picture?
2. How are your representatives chosen?
3. What do you consider a fair government?
4. Can you think of a better way to choose representatives?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

cast | canvass | ballot box | elected | gubernatorial

RIDDLE

What has a neck but no head?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Have you ever voted in an election?
2. How many political parties do you know about?
3. Do you think there should be limits as to whom may vote?
4. Do you think it's easy to become a citizen of the country?
5. How do you feel about election campaigns?
6. Do you think politicians are liars?
7. Who do you think politicians work for?
8. Who would be your ideal politician?
9. Should voters have a right to decide everything that goes on in their country?
10. Who is at the head of your current city?
11. Do you think your city is run well?
12. What politician (of any country) do you think is admirable? detestable?
13. What politician (of any country) do you think should be a "world president?"
14. How could government services be improved?
15. Do you think there is a better way to organize government than by vote?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

campaign | ballot | canvass | caucus | grass roots | election | referendum | poll | candidate | rigging | fraud | ballot fixing | vote buying | backlash

IDIOMS

fully booked

having no availability
Matthew waited to the last minute to try to get seats for himself and his date, so the restaurant was fully booked.

on someone's case
criticizing, or nagging somebody to do something
Elizabeth is always getting on Jill's case over her fashion sense.

(to) grin and bear it
to tolerate, or put up with something
Harold could do nothing but grin and bear the terrible taste of the dinner that his kind wife had just served him, after all, they were newlyweds.

your guess is as good as mine
I don't have a better understanding than you do
Ida, I really don't know anymore than you do. Your guess is as good as mine.

(to) come around
to agree to something eventually; to change one's mind
Vivian will come around after Adrian shows her the new car he bought her.

VERBAL PHRASES

pass for
to appear to be someone, or something other than itself
Cora, you can pass for a twenty-something after the surgery.

send something back
to return; to give back
I have to send my jacket back, because they made a mistake on my order, and the size is too small.

tear something up
to rip into pieces
This agreement is idiotic, so I'm going to tear it up, and not care about it.

ask someone out
to invite on a date
I will ask Joan out this weekend.

bring someone up
to raise, or to be involved in the development of a child
Your family didn't do a proper job of bringing you up, did they?

SLANG

uppity
haughty, or pretentious
Once he gets around his new friends, he gets uppity. Let's bounce.

war paint
a woman's makeup
I don't like asking her out, because it takes her forever to get her war paint on.

weeper
a sad movie, TV show, or novel
I won't lie, that movie was a weeper.

whip
to beat, defeat, or overcome
Oliver is always getting whipped by his younger brother.

whiz
to be skilled, or adept at something

If you need anything concerning math, consult Austin. He's a whiz at it.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you think citizens care enough about what goes on in government?
2. What qualities make a good government leader?
3. Even though many people believe politicians to be dishonest, why do people vote for them?
4. What are some rights that you feel are ignored?
5. Should there be a one world government?
6. What is a perfect government?
7. What would compel you to run for a government office?
8. What role does the press play in determining who becomes a government official?
9. How do you feel about the sacrifices soldiers have made in previous generations?
10. How do you feel about the military?
11. Who are some national heroes that you admire? dislike?
12. Do you agree with the statement “might makes right”?
13. Should the most intelligent run the country?
14. How do you feel about surveillance?

PROVERBS

He that does what he should not shall feel what he would not.

The honest man takes pains and then enjoys pleasures; The knave takes pleasures and then suffers pains.

What you would seem to be, be really.

Necessity never made a good bargain.

The heart of a fool is in his mouth, but the mouth of a wise man is in his heart.

QUOTES

> In politics the middle way is none at all.
>
> John Adams

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich by promising to protect each from the other.
>
> Oscar Ameringer

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?

5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> It is as hard and severe a thing to be a true politician as to be truly moral.
>
> Francis Bacon

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> The politician is like an acrobat: he keeps his balance by saying the opposite of what he does.
>
> Barres

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Vote for the man who promises least. He'll be the least disappointing.
> Bernard Baruch

Questions:
1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

A citizen's vote should be made public.

Certain segments of the population should be denied the right to vote.

FACT

In 1562 François de Civille was declared dead and buried. His brother, however, thought otherwise and disinterred him. François was alive! He lived to be 105.

JOKE

Delivery man: Hello young man, is your mother home?
Jeffry: Do you think I'd be pulling these weeds if she wasn't?

RIDDLE ANSWER

A bottle

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

A good plan violently executed now is better than a perfect plan executed next week.
—George Patton



CHAPTER TWELVE

PETS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What are some interesting pets that you know of?
2. Do you think it's ethical to keep pets?
3. What are some beautiful animals you've seen in person?
4. What are some pets that should not be allowed to be pets?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

fluffy | claws | whiskers | rodent | forager

RIDDLE

What two things can you never eat for breakfast?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Are you an animal lover? What's your favorite animal?
2. Have you ever had a pet? Describe it.
3. If you don't have a pet, why not?
4. What do you think of people who advocate for animal rights?
5. Are you afraid of any animal?
6. What are some endangered animals you know about? What should be done about it?
7. How do you feel about using animals for research?
8. Do you think it's okay to test cosmetics on animals?
9. Do you think it would be best if everyone ate less meat?
10. Have you ever hunted an animal?
11. What do you think of hunters?
12. Have you ever been bitten by an animal?
13. What are some of your favorite animal photographs?
14. What are some amusing animals that you would consider having?
15. What animals do you think would make the best pet?



CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

feline | canine | mandible | omnivore | litter | veterinarian | allergies | mutt | pure breed | spayed | neutered | stray | predator | useless | noisy | wearisome | feral

IDIOMS

the latest dirt
the latest scandal, or gossip
Georgina, has all the latest dirt on anyone in the company.

(to have a) big head
too proud of oneself; haughty; arrogant
Ever since her father won the lottery, Amelia has had a big head.

lover’s spat
an argument or quarrel between a couple
Lisa will sleep over at Sara's place as she's currently having a lover's spat with

Kyle.

night owl
a person who works best at night
Eric, the night owl, always wakes up at lunch.

(to) have a change of heart
to change one's mind
Arthur was going to throw out the last remnant of his childhood, Teddy, the one eyed bear, but he had a change of heart just before tossing the bear into the bin.

VERBAL PHRASES

go through
to undergo; experience; suffer
I know you went through something terrible in your childhood, but it's time to get over it.

keep on
to continue to do
We should keep on, and never give up.

get away with
to succeed in avoiding punishment for something
You will never get away with fooling those people.

give in
to yield; to surrender; to cease fighting
You will give in when hunger sets in.

blow away
to amaze; to stun; to astound

Your ideas blew away the competition.

SLANG

peanuts
a miniscule amount; piddling; little
The only reason Ariel is working for peanuts, is because of her boss, Julius, who she is in love with.

peddler
salesman, or someone who sells trifles
I don't like walking down that street, because it has so many peddlers.

phony
fake, counterfeit (thing or person)
You shouldn't trust him. He's a phony. Everything he sells is phony.

picky
fastidious; critical; particular
Leonardo is picky about who his friends are.

piece of cake
easy; no-brainer; a snap
Building a table is a piece of cake.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Have you ever been to a horse race?
2. What are some curious animals you know about?
3. What can people learn from animals?
4. What do you think about people who spend large amounts of money on pets?
5. Do you think animals should be kept in captivity?

6. What do you think about breeding pets for sport?
7. Have you ever ridden a horse?
8. Would you ever consider owning a wild pet?
9. What do you think about the idea of giving some kinds of animals "personhood?"
10. Have you ever heard of animals being mistreated or abused?
11. What are some intelligent animals you know about?
12. Do you think a person's behavior towards animals reflects their behavior towards people?
13. What animal is most helpful to humans?
14. Do you think virtual pets will ever replace living pets?
15. What are some famous movie star animals?

PROVERBS

Beware of meat twice boiled, and of an old foe reconciled.

Fish and visitors stink in three days.

None preaches better than the ant, and she says nothing.

He that composes himself is wiser than he that composes books.

I never saw an oft-transplanted tree, nor yet an oft-removed family, that throve so well as those that settled be.

QUOTES

> No animal has more liberty than the cat... The cat is the best anarchist.
>
> Ernest Hemingway

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> I am fond of pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals.
>
> Winston Churchill

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The greatest pleasure of a dog is that you may make a fool of yourself with him and not only will he not scold you, but he will make a fool of himself, too.
>
> Samuel Butler

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Dogs never bit me. Just humans.
>
> Marilyn Monroe

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> I care not for a man's religion whose dog and cat are not the better for it.
>
> Abraham Lincoln

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?

2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

DEBATE

Should cell phones be banned in schools?

Animal testing should be banned.

FACT

Brad Pitt voluntarily had his front tooth chipped for the role of Tyler Durden in Fight Club.

JOKE

Q: Why did the rooster run away?
A: Because he was a chicken!

RIDDLE ANSWER

Lunch and dinner

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Don’t be stomping on ants when you have elephants to feed.
> —Peter Turla


See you
next time!

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

HEALTH



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think of the health services in the picture?
2. Do you think these women, and their children are at greatest risk of infections

than people in other areas?
3. Do you think western countries should spend money aiding poor countries?
4. What are some ideas you have on how to improve healthcare in poor, rural areas?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

vaccine bottle | syringe | prick | sanitary | contra indications | immunity

RIDDLE

We hurt without moving. We poison without touching. We bear truth and lies. We are not to be judged by our sizes. What are we?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you have any concerns about your health?
2. Have you ever had any serious health issues?
3. Can you describe some signs of being healthy?
4. What do you do to stay healthy?
5. When was the last time you were seriously ill?
6. Do you often have stress?
7. How often do you eat fast food?
8. What are some ways of taking care of yourself, if you come down with a cold?
9. Have your health habits changed as you've become older?
10. Do you cook healthy food, or do you eat what’s available?
11. What age do you want to reach?
12. Do you have any scars from injuries? How did you get them?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

wholesome | holistic | salubrious | well | flourishing | remedy | prevention | meditation | prescription | hygiene | medication | unhealthy | unsound | weak | infirm | frail

IDIOMS

(to) pull one’s weight
to do one's part in the work
Harvey hasn't been pulling his own weight, ever since he pulled off that deal last year.

(to) steer clear of
to avoid or to stay away from
Barry, I know that you like Ramona, but, for your own sake, you should steer clear of her.

busybody
a person who likes to eavesdrop on others; a snoop
Dwayne is such a busybody that nobody speaks the truth while he's around.

going around
spreading; going from person to person
Jill, there's a bug going around, so be careful and wash your hands frequently.

(to) get one’s act together
to start operating more competently; to get organized
After his divorce, Julian hasn't gotten his act together, so now he's hiking somewhere in the Himalayas.

VERBAL PHRASES

give up

cease making an effort; resign oneself
Don't give up, despite all the setbacks.

take it up with
consult, or discuss with someone
If you are upset about it, take it up with Zavier.

look back on
to think of, or reflect on the past
Although these times are tough, you'll look back on them as times of great growth.

wear out
to use, or be used until no longer in good condition, or working order
Have you worn out the jacket you bought last year?

split off
to separate, or split away from something else
Group A split off from Group B some time ago.

SLANG

get with the program
follow the rules
Stop goofing off, and get with the program.

give one the short end of the stick
take advantage of; trick
Don't let James give you the short end of the stick, he's always trying to make his problems other people's problems.

go to pieces

become so nervous, or upset that one is unable to behave normally
John went to pieces after the love of his life, Hannah, told him what she really thought of him.

got one's back to the wall
desperate; to have few or no alternatives
Ella's got her back to the wall, ever since she told Luca, her boss, to shove it.

grossed out
to be disgusted, or sickened by something or someone
Lila is always grossed out by foods that she's never eaten before.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. How often do you exercise? What exercises do you do?
2. What would perfect health be to you?
3. What do you think of when you hear the word cosmetic surgery?
4. What are some healthy drinks, or foods that you would recommend to a friend?
5. What common contaminants are bad for health?
6. Would you donate your organs after death?
7. What is something you do daily in order to stay healthy?
8. What do you think of alternative medicine?
9. Amongst the people you know, who has the worst health?
10. Amongst the people you know who is healthiest?
11. Do you believe euthanasia is a good option for really sick people?
12. Do you have a plan in case you become seriously ill?

PROVERBS

Half wits talk much but say little.

He that buys by the penny maintains not only himself, but other people.

Let thy maid-servant be faithful, strong, and homely.

Declaiming against pride is not always a sign of humility.

Those who in quarrels interpose, must often wipe a bloody nose.

QUOTES

> To get rich never risk your health. For it is the truth that health is the wealth of wealth.
> Richard Baker

Questions:
1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Any idiot can face a crisis, it's the day to day living that wears you out.
> Anton Chekhov

Questions:
1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?

3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Money is the most envied, but the least enjoyed. Health is the most enjoyed, but the least envied.
>
> Charles Caleb Colton

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> The health of the people is really the foundation upon which all their happiness and all their powers as a state depend.
>
> Benjamin Disraeli

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How can you disprove the quote?

3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> A good health policy is based on three principles. Unfortunately, nobody knows them.
>
> Gerhard Kocher

Questions:
1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you recast the quote?

DEBATE

Gambling should be outlawed.

Should torture be allowed?

FACT

J.K. Rowling was fired from her job as a secretary for daydreaming too much.

JOKE

Q: What dog keeps the best time?
A: A watch dog!

RIDDLE ANSWER

Words

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

We become what we think about.
—Earl Nightingale



CHAPTER FOURTEEN

TRANSFORMATION



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you know what is happening in the picture?
2. When was the last time you saw a butterfly?
3. Have you transformed yourself into something you weren't before, but wanted to be?
4. Can you find any comparisons between a butterfly's life, and a human's life?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

metamorphosis | silkworm | wingspan | glisten | migration

RIDDLE

What has a face and two hands but no arms or legs?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some changes that you've made in your life recently?
2. How has your neighborhood changed in the last five years?
3. How do you think you've changed in the last five years?
4. How often do you like changing your surroundings at home or at work?
5. Do you think it's possible for a person to change their personality?
6. Do you think technology is changing too fast for you to change with it?
7. If you could change anything in your life, what would it be?
8. Have you ever done something that you immediately regretted and wished that you could change back?
9. What are some behaviors that you have decided to change?
10. Have you ever decided to change something about yourself for someone?
11. Have you ever made a drastic change?
12. Have you ever lost a friend because one of you changed?
13. Has someone you know transformed themselves so much that they seem like a different person?
14. What are some things that you haven't changed in a long time?
15. Have you ever advised someone to change their behavior?
16. What was a major change you made in your life?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

improvement | transmutation | revolution | metamorphosis | conversion | stagnation | sameness quiescence | stasis | calm

IDIOMS

can’t complain
things are well, or as well as could be expected
Tom, I know you can't complain about all the success you're having.

(to) drop the ball
to make a mistake; to perform badly
Ian drops the ball so much that he shouldn't be given any critical tasks.

in the mood for
to want; to have a desire for
Brooke, what are you in the mood for?

(to be) nuts about
to like very much
Emma is nuts about Aiden.

(to be) on edge
irritable; nervous
Ella is on edge ever since she saw Ethan talking with Sophia.

VERBAL PHRASES

be up to
to be doing, or planning something
Elise, what will you be up to this weekend?

boil down to
to be reduced to its essentials
Julia, I know you're upset, but what it boils down to is you didn't pay attention.

pick out
to choose, or select from a set of options
Anna, please pick out whatever color you like.

burn out
to become exhausted, especially as a result of stress, or excessive work
If we keep going at the pace we have been going, we're going to burn out soon.

run through
to read, or examine something quickly; to rehearse
We're going to have to run through the check list once more to make sure we didn't miss anything.

SLANG

telling it like it is
being honest; matter of fact; earnest
The reason why I like Arthur is because he always tells it like it is, and he never sugarcoats anything.

tenderfoot
an inexperienced person; a newcomer
Why did you bring tenderfoot along? He's going to slow us down.

threads
clothes; clothing
Maya, you've been wearing nice threads lately.

tight
miserly; tightfisted; ungenerous
Daniel is always tight with his own money, but he expects us to spend ours freely.

touchy
sensitive; emotional
Whenever we get into the topic of family, it's always a touchy subject for some of us.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What is something that you would never change about yourself?
2. What is something that you wish would never change?
3. Have you changed your way of thinking because someone convinced you that you needed to change it?
4. What change have you resist but you know that you'll have to change eventually?
5. Have your ideas about family changed as you've grown older?
6. How have you changed since you were younger?
7. What changes do you think will go through by the time you are eighty years old?
8. How have your ideas about an ideal world changed as you've grown older?
9. How have your ideas about an ideal partner changed since you've grown older?
10. How have your ideas about what you will accomplish changed as you've grown older?
11. How have your ideas about spirituality changed as you've grown older?
12. Why do you think some people refuse to change?
13. What changes do you wish to see in society in the next decade?

PROVERBS

Drink does not drown care, but waters it, and makes it grow fast.

Three good meals a day is bad living.

Here comes the orator! With his flood of words and his drop of reason.

He that speaks much is much mistaken.

Proclaim not all thou knoweth, all thou owest, all thou hast, nor all thou canst.

QUOTES

> Who we are never changes. Who we think we are does.
>
> Mary S. Almanac

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. What choice of words would you have made?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain.
>
> Maya Angelou

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?

3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> The main dangers in this life are the people who want to change everything or nothing.
>
> Nancy Astor

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Everybody wants to do something to help, but nobody wants to be the first.
>
> Pearl Bailey

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the

quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> When you're through changing, you're through.
> Bruce Barton

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you editorialize the quote.
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

Does multiculturalism better encourage social cohesion and unity?

Is political correctness helpful to society?

FACT

The Harry Potter series contains 199 chapters, 4,224 pages, and 1,090,739 words, and has been made into 19 hours and 39 minutes of film.

JOKE

Q: Where do cows go on Friday night?

A: To the MOOOvie theater.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A clock

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Every strike brings me closer to the next home run.
> —Babe Ruth



CHAPTER FIFTEEN

RANDOM QUESTIONS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What kind of person do you think this is?
2. What do you think the paintings signify?
3. If he is from a remote area in the world, what would happen if he were to suddenly be sent to live in a major city?
4. What do you think your life would be like, if you were him?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

blend | chiaroscuro | craftsmanship | alla prima | intensity | moire

RIDDLE

What kind of room has no doors or windows?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. How do you feel right now? What were you thinking about 30 minutes ago?
2. What have you learned today?
3. What's something interesting you've seen online this week?
4. If you were going to write a book, what would you call it and what would it be about?
5. What's the scariest thing you've ever done?
6. What's the funniest thing you've done this week? last week?
7. When was the last time you played a joke on someone? How did it turn out?
8. If someone asked for your advice about self improvement, what would you say?
9. What was the last spontaneous thing you've done?
10. Where you happy growing up?
11. What's the best thing about today?
12. What's something that seemed out of place this week?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

extempore | unconstrained | expression | labyrinth | thicket | consonance | disharmony | discord

IDIOMS

blessing in disguise
something good disguised as bad; something that began badly but ended well
Rita's divorce was actually a blessing in disguise, as she ended up with an even better man.

(let's) face it
accept some difficult reality
Face it, you lost the deal because you couldn't back up your proposal with facts.

(to) look familiar
to remind one of something one has previously encountered
Terrence, doesn't this process look familiar to you?

(to) miss the point
to not understand, catch the most important part
Patricia, you're missing thing point of the whole lecture.

(to) act up
to start showing some fault; or to start hurting
Oliver's leg just starting acting up, so we should help carry him.

VERBAL PHRASES

dry out
to make, or become dry
You can't use that marker because it's dried out.

check out
to examine, or inspect; to leave; to vacate
Please check out the suite, before you commit to leasing it.

look for

to search for; to expect
When you're on this course, Sam, please look for obstacles that might cause trouble.

carry out
to put into practice or effect; to follow, or obey
Have you carried out your assignments for the week?

leave out
to omit, or exclude
Don't leave anything out of your statement, Jed.

SLANG

punk out
to be cowardly concerning some previously agreed upon action; to chicken out
He acted tough until it was game time, then he just punked out.

rain check
postponement; promise for a future date
Since I can't attend this meeting, can I get a rain check for the next one that comes along?

rat
a sneaky, dishonest, or despicable person.
We have to get rid of this rat.

rip off
rip off; thieve; filch
Nancy always rips off Ben's team ideas, and says she thought of them first.

rookie

newcomer; apprentice
Please train all the rookies on how to set up their account.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. If you could learn one random skill, what would you choose?
2. Have you taken an IQ test online? Personality test? Compatibility test?
3. How often do you use social media?
4. What's the most money you've ever given away?
5. What's the stupidest thing you've done?
6. Is it hard to find a good partner?
7. What can't you give up on, even though you wish you could?
8. Who or what do you miss about your childhood?
9. What do you're feeling when you're depressed?
10. What is the hardest thing you've had to do?
11. What are some mistakes you've made in relationships?
12. What's something most people don't know about you but should?
13. What's a question you usually ask to start a conversation with someone?
14. What would you do if you knew someone hated you?
15. What would you do if you were to die tomorrow?
16. What foods do you know are not healthy, but can't stop eating?

PROVERBS

Many have quarreled about religion that never practiced it.

Marry above thy match and you will get a master.

When there is marriage without love, there will be love without marriage.

Keep your eyes wide open before marriage, half shut afterwards.

Where sense is wanting everything is wanting.

QUOTES

> They eat the dainty food of famous chefs with the same pleasure with which they devour gross peasant dishes, mostly composed of garlic and tomatoes, or fisherman's octopus and shrimps, fried in heavily scented olive oil on a little deserted beach.
>
> Luigi Barzini

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. What choice of words would you have made?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Taking food alone tends to make one hard and coarse. Those accustomed to it must lead a Spartan life if they are not to go downhill. Hermits have observed, if for only this reason, a frugal diet. For it is only in company that eating is done justice; food must be divided and distributed if it is to be well received.
>
> Walter Benjamin

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?

4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> It is a difficult matter to argue with the belly since it has no ears.
>
> Cato The Elder

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> I found there was only one way to look thin, hang out with fat people.
>
> Rodney Dangerfield

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> When a man's stomach is full it makes no difference whether he is rich or poor.
>
> Euripides

Questions:
1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you reword the quote?

DEBATE

Is euthanasia justified?

Should plastic bags be banned?

FACT

A young 28-year-old South Korean died from games. He played for 50 hours.

JOKE

Q: What do you call it when a cat stops?
A: A paws!

RIDDLE ANSWER

A mushroom

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

I have learned over the years that when one’s mind is made up, this diminishes fear.
Rosa Parks



CHAPTER SIXTEEN

FASHION



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What kind of fashion is this?
2. Is the fashion represented in the picture universally acceptable? why?
3. How big of a role does fashion play in your everyday life?
4. Where do you think fashion comes from?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

big fancy bun | stiletto | clutch purse | v-neck | pleated

RIDDLE

A monkey, a bird, and a squirrel are racing to the top of a coconut tree. Who will get the banana first, the monkey, the bird, or the squirrel?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What is your favorite type of fashion?
2. Do you ever read fashion magazines?
3. How often do you shop for clothes?
4. Do you enjoy window shopping?
5. Can one be fashionable without spending money?
6. What cities do you think are fashionable?
7. Why do you think some people ignore fashion?
8. What do you think about establishments that deny entry to some people because of their dress?
9. How would you feel about going to a fancy dress party?
10. What is the most useful article of clothing in your wardrobe?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

fad | craze | vogue | latest thing | mode | chic | shabby | accessory | aberration | old-fashioned | unstylish | unfashionable | unpopular

IDIOMS

grunt work
menial, or laborious work

Carl, always winds up with all the grunt work.

all set
not needing anything else; ready to begin
Kittie is all set to go on to university.

(the) hard sell
aggressive selling
Asking her to let you borrow money is going to be a hard sell, especially since you yelled at her mother.

(to) test the waters
to try something out, or evaluate prior to committing
Phillip, you should test the waters first, before you jump into such a long term arrangement.

(to) break even
to make neither a profit or a loss
Thomas isn't even breaking even at his startup.

VERBAL PHRASES

fall in with
to meet and start an association with somebody or some group
She has fallen in with a bad gang, so now she's a changed woman.

ask around
to inquire about something to different people
If you still haven't found her, I'll be happy to ask around for her.

face up to
to confront a condition, or situation

You should face up to your responsibilities.

hand out
something given free to someone
Please, hand out a reward to all those who helped you.

get on
to have a harmonious, or friendly relationship
I do hope that you get on with my friends.

SLANG

cool off
calm down; settle down
Iva, you really need to cool off before you talk to Dan again, otherwise you'll end up saying something you may regret.

corn fed
unsophisticated; backward; rural
It's up to you if you want to put up with her corn fed antics.

cover-up
masking; concealing; an attempt to hide something or someone
Cecile was stalking Bob, so she covered herself up in a wig, and makeup and followed him around for a week.

cram
stuff; squeeze; overcrowd
Claire, you're going to have to leave sooner than expected, so cram all your stuff into the trunk of your car, and go.

crawl with

covered, or abundant with something
You forgot to take out the trash again, so now the kitchen is crawling with ants.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What is the oldest article of clothing you have?
2. Are designer labels worth the money?
3. When one is marrying, how important is formal clothing?
4. What would you consider a fashion gaffe?
5. Why do you think people buy designer clothing for their children?
6. Who is the most fashionable celebrity you know?
7. What is something that you would never wear?
8. How often do you get dressed up?
9. Do you have a favorite outfit that you wear often?
10. What do you think about retro styles?

PROVERBS

Eat few suppers and you'll need few medicines.

A lie stands on one leg, Truth on two.

An undutiful daughter will prove an unmanageable wife.

Love well, whip well.

Eat to live, and not live to eat.

QUOTES

Her hat is a creation that will never go out of style; it will just look ridiculous year after

year.
Fred A. Allen

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

The best-dressed woman is one whose clothes wouldn't look too strange in the country.
Sir Hardy Amies

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

Fashion is the most intense expression of the phenomenon of neomania, which has grown

> ever since the birth of capitalism. Neomania assumes that purchasing the new is the same as acquiring value.... If the purchase of a new garment coincides with the wearing out of an old one, then obviously there is no fashion. If a garment is worn beyond the moment of its natural replacement, there is pauperization. Fashion flourishes on surplus, when someone buys more than he or she needs.
>
> Stephen Bayley

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> An old thing becomes new if you detach it from what usually surrounds it.
>
> Robert Bresson

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Women thrive on novelty and are easy meat for the commerce of fashion. Men prefer old pipes and torn jackets.
>
> Anthony Burgess

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. Can you editorialize the quote.
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

DEBATE

People should be fined for not recycling.

University education should be free.

FACT

Ryan Gosling got his role in The Notebook because the director thought he wasn't handsome.

JOKE

Susan: My dad is stronger than your dad. My dad can hold up a car with one hand.
Tom: Is he a weight lifter?
Susan: No, he's a traffic cop!

RIDDLE ANSWER

None of them because you can't get a banana from a coconut tree.

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

The person who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the person who is doing it.
—Chinese Proverb



CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

HOME



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What personality traits do you think the person that lives in this house has?
2. What do you think of the decoration?

3. What are some things you wish you had in your house?
4. How much personal space do you think a person needs in order to live well?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

furnishings | decor | mantelpiece | hardwood floor | decorative plant

RIDDLE

What can you swallow, yet be swallowed by?



QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you live in a house or an apartment?
2. What are the advantages, and disadvantages of living in either a house, or an apartment?

3. Why did you choose to live where you live now?
4. What would be your perfect home?
5. How easy is it to buy a home?
6. What do you most like about your home?
7. What do you least like about your home?
8. In what room of your home do you spend most of your time in?
9. Have you made any repairs to your home?
10. Are there improvements you would like to make to your home?
11. Can you describe some of the things that you have on your walls or counters at home?
12. Can you describe the interior of your home?
13. What does the outside of your home look like?
14. Do you like where you live now?
15. What are some neighborhoods in your city that you wouldn't want to live in?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

homely | local | household | everyday | plain | mortgage | repairs | DIY | interior | appliances | residence | foreign | commercial | uncommon | different | abnormal

IDIOMS

(to) stand by
to wait; to hold off
Lola told me to stand by, because she has to get clarification on the instructions.

on the dot
at an exact time; sharp
Amanda, don't forget 4 o'clock on the dot.

(to) pass on
to reject; to say no to

Eddie, I know that what you're offering is top notch, but I have to pass on it this time.

(to) hang around
to spend time idly
Richard always hangs around at the mall, since he doesn't have a job.

(to) hold a grudge against (someone)
to stay angry with someone about some past misdeed
Lance has been holding a grudge against Sandy ever since she spoke out about his gaffe that cost us a pretty penny.

VERBAL PHRASES

bring round
to convince someone, usually an opponent, of an opinion, or point of view
Can you bring the topic round to the main point?

see to
to insure; to assure; to make sure of something
Will you see to it that she gets what she needs?

grow apart
to become gradually estranged
I don't know what happened between Ezra and Alice, but they grew apart.

cheer up
to urge someone to become happy; to give encouragement to someone who may be unhappy
Violet has been feeling sad lately, we should try to cheer her up.

blow over

a trouble that will fade away; abate; subside
I'm sure that Jude's anger will blow over, after we show him our success.

SLANG

hang-up
obsession; infatuation; fancy
Axel is still hung up about what Grace told him last year.

hard-nosed
to be stern, or businesslike
Since you're such a troublemaker, your parents had no choice to be hard-nosed.

have a blast
to have a great time
I always have a blast when I go to the beach with Everly.

have cold feet
frightened; anxious; unnerved
Juliet, despite all her desires to become a wife, got cold feet as soon as Arthur proposed.

hella
used as an intensifier similar to very
That ice cream is hella good.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. If you could only keep two things that you have at home now, what would they be?
2. Do you know your neighbors? Do you get along with them?
3. If you've ever been away from home for an extended period, have you ever

been homesick?
4. Would you rather live in the city, or the country?
5. What appliances do you think are essential for the home?
6. What do you think houses of the future will be like? What will they have in them?
7. How important is home security for you?
8. How did you go about decorating or designing your home's interior?
9. Has the electricity in your home ever gone out? What did you do?
10. Has the water in your home ever stopped running? What did you do?
11. What are some things to do near where you live?
12. What are some ways you feel may make your home more environmentally friendly?

PROVERBS

If your head is wax, don't walk in the sun.

Beware, beware; he'll cheat without scruple, who can without fear.

The king's cheese is half wasted in parings; but no matter, 'tis made of the people's milk.

There's many witty men whose brains can't fill their bellies.

Let all men know thee, but no man know thee thoroughly; men freely ford that see the shallows.

QUOTES

> The home is not the one tame place in the world of adventure. It is the one wild place in the world of rules and set tasks.
>
> G. K. Chesterton

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> We shape our dwellings, and afterwards our dwellings shape us.
>
> Sir Winston Churchill

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Nothing annoys a woman more than to have company drop in unexpectedly and find the house looking as it usually does.
>
> Frank Dane

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.
>
> Robert Frost

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> The worst feeling in the world is the homesickness that comes over a man occasionally when he is at home.
>
> Edward W. Howe

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?

2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

Children should provide room and board for their aging parents.

Vaccination should be compulsory.

FACT

Corn is in most of the things we consume in one form or another. It is given as feed to chickens, pigs, and cows. It is used to make cooking oil, snack foods, baked goods, and in margarine. Also, it is found in many sweet foods in the form of corn syrup.

JOKE

Q: What do you get when you cross a parrot with a pig?
A: A bird who hogs the conversation.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Pride

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal.
—Henry Ford



CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

MUSIC



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you imagine this band plays?
2. When was the last time you saw a live band perform?
3. Are there musical instruments that you prefer over others?
4. Can you describe a day in the life of this band?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

French horn | tassel | drum stick | symphonious | trumpet

RIDDLE

If a farmer has 5 haystacks in one field and 4 haystacks in the other field, how many haystacks would he have if he combined them all in another field?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What do you pay more attention to, lyrics or melody?
2. What are some of your favorite songs?
3. What genre of music do you usually listen to?
4. Where do you like listening to music?
5. Do you like going to karaoke places?
6. Have you ever been to a concert?
7. What musical instrument is your favorite?
8. What music do you dislike?
9. Do you like musicals?
10. Can you read musical notation?
11. Have you ever taken music lessons?
12. How do you find new music to listen to?
13. Do you listen to movie soundtracks?
14. What songs have been particularly moving to you?
15. If you could meet any musician, who would you want to meet?
16. What song have you listen to the most?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

tune | acoustic | a cappella | harmony | fusion | vocalist | composer | concert | symphony | silence | still | quiet | blackout | dead air

IDIOMS

(to) spark one’s interest
to raise one's interest; to cause one to be interested in
I had never planned on spending so much time on this project, but something about it sparked my interest.

(to) drive a hard bargain
to be tough at negotiations; to try and gain as much for oneself as possible through negotiations
Xander always drives a hard bargain with all the shopkeepers.

(to) mess around
to waste time; to have no certain purpose or goal
Miriam, stop messing around and get back to work.

(to) grab a bite
to get something quick to eat
Roy asked me to grab a bite with him, but I had too much work to finish.

(to) miss out
to lose an opportunity; to not experience something
Hurry, Nicky, I really don't want you to miss out on the show.

VERBAL PHRASES

look over
to examine, or inspect
Have you looked over the contract that you were sent yesterday?

stick by
continue to support, or be loyal to

This dog is so loyal she'll stick by you longer than anyone you know.

call up
to telephone
Call up this number, if you ever need an air conditioner.

bear with
to be patient, or tolerant with
You should bear with the children of her previous marriage, if you love her.

hand over
to pass the responsibility for to someone else
You should hand over your documents to the official.

SLANG

mess with one's head
to cause someone to feel frustrated, anxious, or upset
Travis, she's just trying to mess with your head, so don't trust anything that comes out of her mouth.

mudslinger
a person who abuses others (verbally), but whose abuse may be truthful
His divorce was vicious. It brought out all the mudslingers from both sides of the family.

nag
to scold, a scold
I don't like taking her anywhere, because she always nags me into doing whatever she wants.

nail it

to complete a task successfully
You really nailed it with that pitch.

no sweat
effortless; painless; straightforward
It's no sweat getting all of this grunt work done, so long as you have enough good music.



QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you listen to music to relax? What type?
2. What do you think the world would be like without music?
3. Do you think music influences behavior?
4. What was your favorite music growing up?
5. Do you listen to music in other languages? Describe
6. How important is music in your culture?
7. What do you think makes a song popular?
8. Do you think it's wrong to download music?
9. Do you think music can have an effect on unborn children?
10. Would you like to be a musician?
11. What do you think it’s like being a “rockstar?”

12. Have you ever been disappointed by a singer or group whose music you once enjoyed?
13. Do you think everyone should learn to appreciate music?
14. What is the best way to listen to music?

PROVERBS

Industry gives comfort and plenty and respect.
Keep thy shop and thy shop will keep thee.
If you would have your business done, go; if not, send.
Want of care does us more damage than want of knowledge.
Not to oversee workmen is to leave them your purse open.

QUOTES

> A lot of pop music is about stealing pocket money from children.
>
> Ian Anderson

Questions:
1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.
>
> Berthold Auerbach

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> It is a wise tune that knows its own father, and I like my music to be the legitimate offspring of respectable parents.
>
> Samuel Butler

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Music is well said to be the speech of angels.
>
> Thomas Carlyle

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?

3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Composers shouldn't think too much — it interferes with their plagiarism.
>
> Howard Dietz

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

DEBATE

The prices of goods should be controlled by the government.

Is universal peace probable?

FACT

In Japan, a main cause for divorce amongst the older generation is due to RHS (retired husband syndrome).

JOKE

Q: What did the computer keyboard say to the typist?
A: "you're really pushing my buttons!"

RIDDLE ANSWER

One. If he combines them all, there will only be one stack.

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you.
>
> —Carl Sandburg



CHAPTER NINETEEN

HOPES



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you recognize this gesture?
2. Are there any gestures that represent similar concepts?
3. Should one just "work hard" instead of hope?
4. What was the last thing that you hoped for that you actually obtained?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

crossed fingers | palm | promise | double cross | premonition

RIDDLE

What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What role do you think hope plays in life?
2. Have you ever read anything that gave you hope?
3. What relationship does art have to hope?
4. What are some things that you hope to achieve in 5, 10, 20 year's time?
5. What are some things that you were close to achieving, but didn't achieve?
6. Have you ever lost hope in someone?
7. Have you ever hoped you could do something, but others always tried to dissuade you from doing it?
8. What are some hopes that your family has for you?
9. What are some hopes that your family has?
10. Have you ever helped a friend accomplish something even after they'd lost hope?
11. What do you hope society could accomplish?
12. Can hope be taught?
13. How can one influence others to hope more?
14. What are some things that you think criminals would hope for?
15. Do you think animals hope?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

prospect | aspiration | optimism | expectation | promise | involvement | task | assured | doubt | hopelessness | pessimism | distrust | hesitation

IDIOMS

(to) decide on
to choose; to select
Cora has decided on staying on the island as long as possible, after seeing the beautiful beaches.

(to) hold out for
to wait for something desired, and not accept a lesser alternative
Gordon hasn't gotten around to marrying, since he's holding out for The One, whatever that means.

(to) slave away
to work hard for little reward
Ever since Earnest got married, he's been slaving away trying to buy his wife whatever she wants.

(to) beat around the bush
to talk around a subject; to speak in a roundabout way
If you're going to interrogate Gabriel, do it forcefully, otherwise he'll beat around the bush when he answers.

game plan
a plan of action; a predetermined plan
Robin has a game plan that I think is perfect.

VERBAL PHRASES

come up against
to be faced with, or opposed by
We've come up against something that we haven't had to deal with before.

come between
to interfere with, or to disturb the relationship of others
Cora and Eva have been friends since childhood, so nothing will come between them.

bring down
to cause to fall, or collapse; to force to the ground
Lucy has just brought down all our ideas with her facts.

work off
to get rid of by work, or effort
You're going to have to work off all those calories that you just ate.

find out
to ascertain through examination, or inquiry
If you are sure that nobody will find out, then do it.

SLANG

hooked
captivated; absorbed
Charlie is hooked on a girl he met in the park.

hooky
to stay away from school, or work without permission, or explanation
If you're ever in charge of Oscar, make sure he doesn't play hooky.

hot air
empty talk; discussion without substance
Owen is full of hot air, so don't let him intimidate you.

hotshot

a person whose self-esteem is excessive; a person who is successful
You talk so much smack, because you think you're such a hotshot.

hottie
an attractive person
She's a real hottie. You shouldn't let her get away.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Is there any literature that inspires hope in you?
2. How did you feel when you accomplished something that you'd long hoped for?
3. Does having hope lead one to become spiritual?
4. When you want to achieve something, do you follow any procedures?
5. What are some hopes that you worry you'll not be able to accomplish?
6. Does religion influence the way a person hopes for something?
7. What are some things you hoped for when you were little?
8. What do you hope technology will be like in the future?
9. What are some hopes that you know are unrealistic?
10. What are something you hope to learn this year?
11. What are some hopes that other cultures have? Are they compatible with each other?
12. Do people mostly hope for the same thing?
13. What should be a universal hope?

PROVERBS

Ill customs and bad advise are seldom forgotten.

No better relation than a prudent and faithful friend.

An honest man will receive neither money nor praise that is not his due.

Many Foxes grow grey, but few grow good.

Content makes poor men rich; discontent makes rich men poor.

QUOTES

> Hope calculates its scenes for a long and durable life; presses forward to imaginary points of bliss; and grasps at impossibilities; and consequently very often ensnares men into beggary, ruin and dishonor.
>
> Joseph Addison

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> My great hope is to laugh as much as I cry; to get my work done and try to love somebody and have the courage to accept the love in return.
>
> Maya Angelou

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?

2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Hope is a good breakfast but a bad supper.
>
> Francis Bacon

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.
>
> Dale Carnegie

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?

3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> To give a generous hope to a man of his own nature, is to enrich him immeasurably.
> William Ellery Channing

Questions:
1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

All children should be provided with free meals at public schools.

Housewives should be paid for their work.

FACT

A shy Saudi Arabian woman divorced her husband because he looked at her bare face despite having been married to him 30 years.

JOKE

Q: What do cats call mice?
A: Delicious.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Incorrectly

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own actions.
> —Dalai Lama



CHAPTER TWENTY

WORK RELATIONSHIPS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think they are discussing?
2. What are some meetings you've had?
3. Can you think of more efficient methods of collaborating than a personal

meeting?
4. What are some problems with personal meetings?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

boardroom | executive | conference room | legalese | teleconference

RIDDLE

What has legs but cannot walk?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Have you ever had a complaint against a co-worker?
2. What are somethings you've found admirable in a co-worker?
3. What would you be doing if you weren't at your current job?
4. What was your first impression about your boss? Have your thoughts changed?
5. What is it like working at your current place?
6. Do you still enjoy doing the kind of work you do?
7. Are you positive about the impact you're making?
8. What more do you want to achieve in your career?
9. What have been some of your biggest failures in your work life?
10. Who would you thank in helping you achieve what you've achieved?
11. While at work, when are you happiest?
12. If you were to start a company, what would it be for?
13. In your work life, who is your role model?
14. What's the most important lesson you've learned at work?
15. How do you think your coworkers see you?
16. Do you think coworkers should hang out together after work?
17. What are some things that worry you about your career?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

affirmative action | base pay | benefits | bonus | contract | shift | profession | fire | shift boss | nepotism | under the table | layoff | severance | compulsory

IDIOMS

(to) work one's tail off
to work very hard
Byron has been working his tail off, ever since he arrived to America.

(to) get out of it
to escape; to free oneself from some responsibility or activity
Heather got herself out of her engagement with Wyatt by saying that she no longer loved him.

(to) pick up
to gain, or acquire
Vincent, I'm sure that you can pick up what you need to learn quickly, so don't disappoint me.

(to) call it a day
to end an activity for the day; to stop doing something
Elliot is such a slacker that he calls it a day at 3 p.m.

(to) cost an arm and a leg
to be very expensive, or costly
Skyler's new couch costs an arm and a leg.

VERBAL PHRASES

not care for someone or something

to not like; to dislike
I think Susan doesn't care for John anymore, since she's always ignoring him.

come down with something
to become sick; to feel ill
After eating at that dirty restaurant, I think I'm coming down with something.

do something over
to do again; to retry
I failed my last exam, so I'll have to do it over again.

get back at someone
to retaliate; to avenge
Susan is trying to get back at Tony for making her lose her job.

go without something
to make do without; to suffer, or lack; to be deprived of
Since you're dieting, you're just going to have to go without junk food for a while.

SLANG

wicked
excellent; great; impressive
That was wicked!

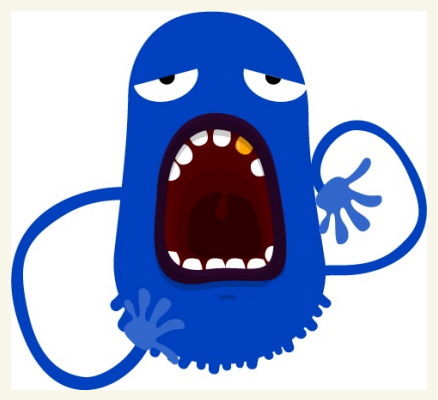
wild
thrilling; lively; mind-blowing
Mia, that party that you threw last night was wild.

wind up
to annoy, or upset someone

Don't let Eli wind you up, after all he's just a teenager.

wink
bat an eye; indicate attraction through a quick closing, and opening of the eye lid
Lucy just winked at you to try and get your attention.

yada yada yada
an expression to refer to some talk on something that one doesn't care for, or isn't interested in
She talked so much about her boyfriend that eventually all I heard was yada, yada, yada.



QUESTION BLOCK B

1. How would you confront somebody that is being disruptive?
2. What is the culture like at your current workplace? previous?
3. What assumptions did you make about your workplace, coworker, that were wrong?
4. Has there been a coworker that has tried to sabotage your efforts?
5. What are some changes that you would like to see in your current work place?
6. How can you make your work place more efficient? profitable?
7. Do you think your formal education helped you work better at your current

position?
8. What was the best thing that ever happened at work?
9. Have you ever been embarrassed by something you've done at work?
10. Are you still in touch with previous coworkers?
11. How important is equality in the work place?
12. Do you think everyone should learn salesmanship?
13. How can you improve your business networking?

PROVERBS

Pride dines on Vanity, sups on Contempt.

Pride breakfasted with Plenty Dined with poverty Supped with Infamy.

Blame-all and Praise-all are two blockheads.

Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other, and scarce in that.

It is ill-manners to silence a fool and cruelty to let him go on.

QUOTES

> If you are poor, though you dwell in the busy marketplace, no one will inquire about you; if you are rich, though you dwell in the heart of the mountains, you will have distant relatives.
>
> Chinese Proverb

Questions:
1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you

would discover?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> The best way to make happy money is to make money your hobby and not your god.
>
> Scott Alexander

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Capital can do nothing without brains to direct it.
>
> J. Ogden Armour

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Bankruptcy is a legal proceeding in which you put your money in your pants pocket and give your coat to your creditors.
>
> Joey Adams

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Business, you know, may bring you money, but friendship hardly ever does.
>
> Jane Austen

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

All workers should join unions.

The free market should determine the minimum wage.

FACT

Cathie Jung has the smallest waist on record. Although her height is 1.65 meters, her waist is 38.1 cm.

JOKE

Jeffrey: Dad, can I have a dollar?
Dad: I think it's time you stopped asking me for dollars.
Jeffry: Okay, can I have a five?

RIDDLE ANSWER

A table, or chair

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> A goal is not always meant to be reached; it often serves simply as something to aim at.
> —Bruce Lee



CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

JOB INTERVIEWS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What was the last job you've held?
2. What are some qualities that you would look for in an applicant?

3. If people often misrepresent themselves, how does one discern who is honest, and who is not?
4. Do you think the recruiter should be responsible for people who fail to perform successfully at their job, or should it be someone else?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

recruiter | applicant | resume | CV | job fair | lounge

RIDDLE

What grows when it eats, but dies when it drinks?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What were your job responsibilities at a previous job?
2. What did you like or dislike about your previous job?
3. What employable tasks are you most effective at?
4. What employable tasks are you least effective at?
5. If you couldn’t find a job, but had to work for yourself, what skill that you possess would you use to make money?
6. What are some major challenges and problems that you’ve faced? How did you handle them?
7. When choosing what company to work for, what do you look for in your selection process?
8. If we’re sitting here a year from now celebrating what a great year it’s been for you in your job, what did you achieve?
9. Who is your role model, and why?
10. What things do you not like to do?
11. Tell me about a project or accomplishment that you consider to be the most significant in your career.
12. Tell me about a recent project or problem that you made better, faster,

smarter, more efficient, or less expensive.
13. Discuss a specific accomplishment that you've achieved that would make you a good fit for a job.
14. In the best of all possible worlds, what would you like to accomplish at X company? In three months? In a year? In five years?
15. What are some things that you think you are able to learn at your job?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

conference | consultation | session | powwow | examination | application | resign | bonus | applicant | cubicle | inquiry | objection | reservation | uncertain | mistrust

IDIOMS

(to) drag on
to last longer than wanted; to last too long
I offered to hear Jasmine out, but her complaints about her ex-boyfriend just dragged on and on.

ballpark figure
an approximation
Angeline, please give me a ballpark figure on what you're expecting to get for your company.

up to scratch
at the expected skill level; good
I appreciate your enthusiasm, but I think your skills aren't up to scratch.

(to) try something on
to put something on to see if it fits
Try this shirt on, Hilda.

(to) blow it
to spoil an opportunity, or chance
Samantha blew whatever relationship she had with Tyler, after a slip of the tongue.

VERBAL PHRASES

stand in for
substitute; take over for; cover for someone
Do you think this paragraph can stand in for the main argument?

own up to
to admit, or confess to something
Hazel, own up to the fact that it was you who put the black paint in with the pink.

die down
ease off; subside; peter out
The chaos should die down sometime after dark.

come at
to launch oneself at; to attack
Eleanor was so upset that she came at us with her car.

get over
to overcome; to get the better of; to cope with
I'm not sure why you haven't been able to get over the loss of your dog.

SLANG

hunch
presentiment; foreboding; intuition

Logan had a hunch that his company was cheating him out of sales.

hunky-dory
fine; going well
I asked Axel if everything was okay, and he said it was hunky-dory.

hurting
heartbroken; sad; sorrowful
Noah is hurting, after he lost his mother.

hurting for
need; want
Jonah is hurting for a new car, after his sister smashed his old one.

hush hush
confidential; secret; clandestine
Remember, what we are trying to find out about Ella must be kept hush hush.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What aspect of your job was hardest to understand?
2. Imagine you're the interviewer, what questions would you ask a potential hire?
3. Imagine that you've been at work for a couple of years, but in six months, you're being fired. Why?
4. Can you describe a time when your work was criticized?
5. What are you looking for in terms of career development?
6. If I were to ask your last supervisor to provide you additional training or exposure, what would he suggest?
7. How would you go about establishing your credibility quickly with a new team?
8. How would you describe your work style?
9. What would be your ideal working environment?

10. What techniques and tools do you use to keep yourself organized?
11. What do you ultimately want to become?
12. Who or what has impacted you most in your career?
13. How would you feel about working for someone who knows less than you?
14. What assignment was too difficult for you, and how did you resolve the issue?
15. Describe how you would handle a situation if you were required to finish multiple tasks by the end of the day, and there was no conceivable way that you could finish them?
16. Give me an example of a time you did something wrong at work. How did you handle it?

PROVERBS

Success has ruined many a man.

Always taking out of the meal tub and never putting in, soon comes to the bottom.

When the well is dry — they know the worth of water.

If you will not hear and obey reason she will surely rap your knuckles.

A countryman between two lawyers is like a fish between two cats.

QUOTES

> It is not every question that deserves an answer.
> Publilius Syrus

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Questions are never indiscreet. Answers sometimes are.
>
> Oscar Wilde

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> We've no use for intellectuals in this outfit. What we need is chimpanzees. Let me give you a word of advice: never say a word to us about being intelligent. We will think for you, my friend. Don't forget it.
>
> Louis-Ferdinand Celine

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Labor is the instituted means for the methodical development of all our powers under the direction and control of the will.
>
> Josiah Gilbert Holland

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What choice of words would you have made?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Every man is dishonest who lives upon the labor of others, no matter if he occupies a throne.
>
> Robert G. Ingersoll

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

The unemployed should be given jobs by the government.

The professional criminal should be treated differently than a first time offender.

FACT

Forty percent of the world's people can't use a toilet, because they can't afford it.

JOKE

Q: What did the cat get on the test?
A: A purr-fect score.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Fire

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Nothing is a waste of time if you use the experience wisely.
>
> —Rodin


See you
next time!

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

HABITS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you think this is healthy?
2. Do you play video games, or watch TV, or are you at your computer for extended periods?
3. What are some foods that you enjoy while watching TV or playing video games, or while at your computer?

4. What do you think the people in charge of allowing this would say to defend their actions?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

energy drink | night out | console | palooza | controller | nonstop

RIDDLE

You use a knife to slice my head and weep beside me when I'm dead, what am I?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What routines do you have in the morning?
2. Do you usually eat the same thing in the morning?
3. What are some things you do when it's hot outside?
4. What are some things you do when it's cold outside?
5. What are some unusual things that you enjoy doing?
6. What was the last thing that you tried making into a habit, but couldn't?
7. When you procrastinate, what do you do?
8. Do you have any bad habits?
9. What are some late night meals or snacks that you commonly eat?
10. What are some good habits that everyone should try to have?
11. Where do we learn our habits from?
12. How easy is it to change a habit?
13. What habits have you tried changing? Why?
14. Do children learn bad habits at school or at home or through their natural inclinations?
15. What habit of others is upsetting to you?
16. Do any of your family members have bad habits?
17. How often do you spend watching TV, or using the internet?
18. What are some routine things you do online?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

quirk | propensity | second nature | addiction | disposition | routine | disciplined | impulsive | disinclination | dislike | divergence | irregularity | deviation

IDIOMS

you've got a deal
the deal is agreed to; I accept
Harold, although I'm not making any profit, you've got a deal.

(to) stand one's ground
to refuse to yield; to defend one's position
Oliver, you should stand your ground, whenever Nina bullies you around.

(to) get around to it
to do something in due course; to have time to do something
Mason told me not to worry about the squeaking, and that he'll get around to it soon.

(the) fine print
parts of a contract that are often hidden and not easily comprehended, or discerned from the rest of the contract
The company was able to fire you so quickly, because you didn't read the fine print that stated that you were an at-will employee.

to tell you the truth
to speak earnestly, or openly
Gloria, to tell you the truth, I've never liked your dog.



VERBAL PHRASES

get back into
reacquaint oneself with something previously done, or known
You should really get back into exercising.

fall apart
break up; come apart; disintegrate
I think everything is falling apart.

bring about
to cause something to happen
Have you brought about any good changes lately?

get out of
escape; avoid; dodge

You'll have to get out of this situation, if you expect any benefits later.

turn into
be transformed into
What have you turned her into?

SLANG

fishy
something dubious, or shady
You really think it's a good deal? It sounds fishy.

for the birds
worthless, undesirable
Bess, that story you just brought in here is for the birds, and you know it.

freeloader
a person who takes from others without reciprocating; a person who exploits others for gain without giving something in return
Riley a freeloader, so don't invite him to your house.

game time
time to act on what was planned, or is necessary
I know you're nervous, but it's game time.

get the nod
to be chosen
At first she wasn't sure if she was going to get in, but she was ecstatic when she got the nod.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What is your favorite thing to do to pass the time in any given day?
2. How do your habits compare to those of your parents?
3. Why do you think so many people become addicted to something?
4. Have you ever been addicted to something? How did you deal with it?
5. How do your weekend routines differ from your weekday routines?
6. What are some habits that you formed, but weren't aware that you were forming?
7. Do you ever plan your routine around the habit of others?
8. Have you ever taken advantage of someone's habit?
9. How do you feel when your routine is interrupted by something outside your control?

PROVERBS

There are no fools so troublesome as those who have wit.

Quarrels never could last long, if on one side only lay the wrong.

The heart of the fool is in his mouth, but the mouth of the wise man is in his heart.

Visit your aunt, but not every day; and call at your brother's, but not every night.

Hear Reason, or she'll make you feel her.

QUOTES

> Curious things, habits. People themselves never knew they had them.
>
> Agatha Christie

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Make good habits and they will make you.
>
> Parks Cousins

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The chains of habit are generally too week to be felt, until they are too strong to be broken.
>
> Samuel Johnson

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?

2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Once you learn to quit, it becomes a habit.
>
> Vince Lombardi

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> If an idiot were to tell you the same story every day for a year, you would end by believing it.
>
> Horace Mann

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?

4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

Should patents be abolished?

Performance enhancing drugs in sports should be allowed.

FACT

If you're spending money buying bottled water because you think it's cleaner than tap, you might as well throw the money into the trash. Bottled water is not always cleaner than tap water.

JOKE

Q: What time do ducks get up?
A: At the quack of dawn.

RIDDLE ANSWER

An onion

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> A day wasted on others is not wasted on one’s self.
> —Charles Dickens


See you
next time!

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

MONEY MATTERS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Can you describe what is happening in the picture?
2. What do you think of financial brokers?
3. How do you think financial markers should be handled?
4. How do you think what happens on financial markets affects you in your everyday life?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

day trader | brokerage | stock ticker | chart | commodity

RIDDLE

There is a house. One enters it blind and comes out seeing. What is it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you think that you're being paid fairly?
2. Can you explain how insurance works?
3. Do you have any loans? What are the terms?
4. How much should one reserve in an emergency fund? Do you have one?
5. Are there any fees that you are paying for services?
6. How did your family handle money when you were growing up?
7. Are you a spender or a saver?
8. What is more valuable to you, things that you can keep or experiences?
9. Should couples have separate bank accounts?
10. What do you consider a “big” financial decision?
11. How do you manage your money?
12. What are your financial goals?
13. In order to afford retirement, what would you need?
14. What do you know about wills?
15. Should adult children expect an inheritance?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

economical | fiscal | pecuniary | budget | numeric | currency | debt | credit | squanderer | spendthrift | profligate | high-roller | imprudent

IDIOMS

(to be) burned out
to lose effectiveness because one has become tired
I'm sorry that I can't go camping with you tomorrow, but I'm burnt out because of work.

(to) go for it
to proceed; to attempt, or try something
George knew nothing of the danger, so he went for it.

(to) hit it off
to have a good relationship from the start
Jodi and Rachel hit it off, and now they're best friends.

like pulling teeth
very difficult, or displeasing
Whenever I try to convince Tyler of anything, it's like pulling teeth, because he's so stubborn.

(to) set eyes on
to look at
Ever since you set eyes on that house, you've had your mind made up to buy it.

VERBAL PHRASES

get ahead
to become successful; prosper
Henry got ahead by sheer willpower.

rule out
to eliminate, or discard a possibility
We can rule out Finn from the potential applicants.

bring out
to uncover; to make more accentuated
Ivy brings out the soft side of James.

go over
to examine, consider, or check the details of
Please go over all the details of the package with Andrew.

think over
to ponder, or reflect about
You should think over the offer Austin has given you with your family.

SLANG

lay it on the line
jeopardize; imperil; gamble
Ned, you're laying everything on the line by telling her that.

lay it on thick
dramatize; exaggerate; overstate
Dennis must really want something; he's laying it on thick.

leg it
run; escape; leave on foot
I guess the bus is out of service, so well have to leg it.

lend a hand
to help, or assist
Kanye, can you lend me a hand with this chair?

loudmouth
a person who boasts, or talks too much about something he shouldn't; indiscreet

Your loudmouth is going to get us caught.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What is the best way to invest your money?
2. How much (in percentage terms) should you save every month from your income?
3. How much would one need to have in order to have a baby?
4. How do you feel about debt?
5. How much money would you need to have to consider yourself rich?
6. Do you think spending money on private education is a good idea?
7. Do you think splurging once in a while is a good idea?
8. Do you think vacations are a good return on the investment?
9. What are some good ways to make money?
10. How much allowance should children be given?
11. What is the best return on investment you've had?
12. Should families control their expenditures as a whole, or as individuals?
13. What would you consider a poor salary?
14. What the one thing that you can buy that can make you happiest?
15. What are you thoughts on taxes?

PROVERBS

Each year one vicious habit rooted out, in time might make the worst man good throughout.

Hear no ill of a friend, nor speak any of an enemy.

None but the well-bred man knows how to confess a fault or acknowledge himself in an error.

Trust thyself and another shall not betray thee.

Woulds't thou confound thy enemy, be good thyself.

QUOTES

> We estimate the wisdom of nations by seeing what they did with their surplus capital.
> Ralph Waldo Emerson

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Money will say more in one moment than the most eloquent lover can in years.
> Henry Fielding

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Thought, not money, is the real business capital...
>
> Harvey S. Firestone

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> He that is of the opinion money will do everything may well be suspected of doing everything for money.
>
> Benjamin Franklin

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> People who work sitting down get paid more than people who work standing up.
> Ogden Nash

Questions:
1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

All Students should have an after school job.

The government should pay for post secondary education.

FACT

If you had lived in during Roman times, and did something naughty, your father could have just sold you away. The pater familias (patriarch) was allowed to sell any child into slavery.

JOKE

Q: Why do cows have bells?
A: Their horns don't work.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A school

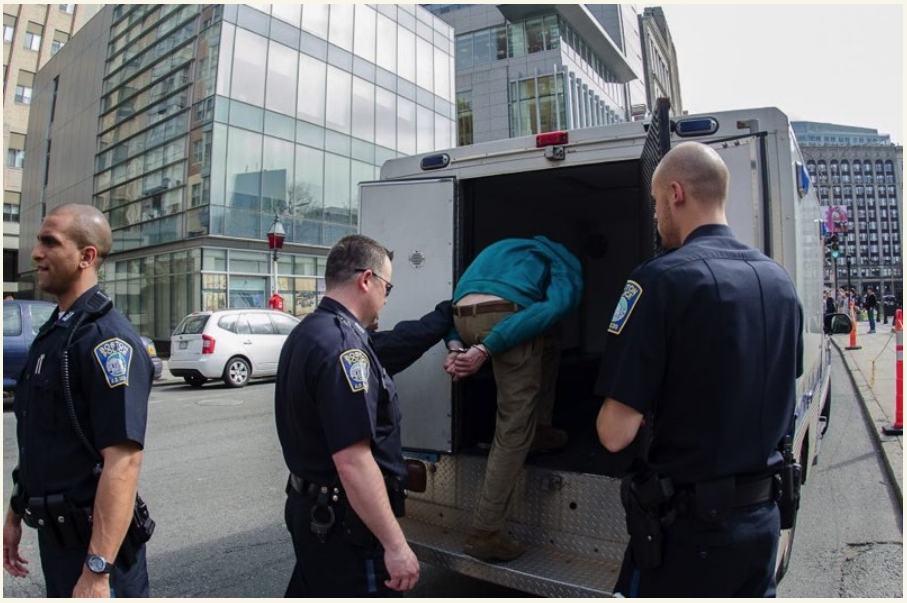
MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Live each day as if it be your last.
—Marcus Aurelius



CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

CRIME



PICTURE QUESTIONS

What offense do you think this person has committed?
Do you think protesters are criminals?
What should be done to protesters that will not be quiet?
What should society do in order to minimize criminal behavior?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

paddy wagon | patrolman | baton | walkie-talkie | witness

RIDDLE

How much dirt is there in a hole that's four feet by six feet?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you know anyone that has been robbed, or assaulted?
2. Do you worry when walking around outside at dark?
3. Do you always take care of your belongings when in public?
4. Do you think that capital punishment is acceptable?
5. What do you consider minor crimes?
6. What are some terrible crimes?
7. Have you ever walked in a risky area? If yes, why do you feel it was risky?
8. What are some situations for which you would call the police?
9. Have you ever seen a crime take place?
10. If a person steals food because he is really in need, should he be punished?
11. Is it ever okay to break the law?
12. What punishment should be given to those who steal somebody’s life savings through fraud?
13. Why do you think people become criminals?
14. What would you do if you heard a burglar in your home?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

guard | thief | felon | unlawful | victim | white collar crime | mug | bribe | scam | authorized | uncorrupted | lawful | ethical | proper

IDIOMS

all along

from the beginning; throughout
Roberta knew what Karl's plan was all along.

(to) take it from there
to refrain from action until a determination can be made; to continue some action that was handed over by someone else
Dora, just hand your documents to Jacob, and he'll take it from there.

(to) fill someone in (on something)
to give new information to someone about goings on; to update someone
Stella will fill you in on everything, so pay attention.

(to) turn up
to be found
Selma, I'm sure your rabbit will turn up soon, so don't cry.

bright and early
early in the morning
Our group sets out bright and early tomorrow, so make sure to have everything ready to go.

VERBAL PHRASES

come apart
separate into pieces, or fragments
I don't like buying products from that manufacturer, because anything they make comes apart after a few uses.

put down
disparage; depreciate; to make someone feel unimportant
Sara likes putting everyone down by telling them how sad their lives are.

cut back on
lesson something in amount or quantity
Barbara, you should really cut back on the cupcakes.

point out
indicate; show; reveal
Rachel, it was unnecessary for you to point out that Barbara has an eating problem.

turn over
yield control of; give; hand over
Glen, please turn over the keys as soon as you get a chance.



SLANG

botch
mismanage; stumble; mess up
Adelia really botched up the cake.

bounce
leave; set out from

It's getting late, so it's time we bounce.

breather
rest period; respite; break
At the least, you should give us a little breather after working us so hard.

bright side
hope; to consider the good side of things
Whenever I'm worried about something, I talk to John because he can always look on the bright side of things.

buck
one dollar
Claire just gave me a couple of bucks, but she expects me to buy dinner.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What should be done with people who use violence?
2. Do you think graffiti is vandalism or art?
3. How should bribery be dealt with?
4. Which is worse, life imprisonment or the dead penalty?
5. Do you consider online piracy a crime?
6. What punishment do you think is appropriate for intellectual property theft?
7. If one of your friends commits a crime, what would you do?
8. Do you agree with some that say that everything not prohibited by law is allowed?
9. Do you think it is better to use corporal punishment than simply incarcerating criminals?
10. Should criminals pay financially for their maintenance while they are imprisoned?

PROVERBS

Plough deep while sluggards sleep and you shall have corn to sell and to keep.

Work while it is called today for you know not how much you may be hindered tomorrow.

One today is worth two tomorrows.

Have you something to do tomorrow? Do it today.

Trouble springs from idleness and grievous toil from needless ease.

QUOTES

> To assert in any case that a man must be absolutely cut off from society because he is absolutely evil amounts to saying that society is absolutely good, and no-one in his right mind will believe this today.
>
> Albert Camus

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> He that is taken and put into prison or chains is not conquered, though overcome; for he is still an enemy.

Thomas Hobbes

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you editorialize the quote.
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

It isn't true that convicts live like animals: animals have more room to move around.
Mario Vargas Llosa

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

Every time you stop a school, you will have to build a jail. What you gain at one end you lose at the other. It's like feeding a dog on his own tail. It won't fatten the dog.

Mark Twain

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

I know not whether Laws be right or whether Laws be wrong; all that we know who live in gaol is that the wall is strong; and that each day is like a year, a year whose days are long.

Oscar Wilde

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

Capital punishment should be abolished.
Parents should be punished for their children's crimes.

FACT

In the 16th century, Bear Gardens were places wherein bears would be attacked by hunting dogs for fun.

JOKE

Mother: Timmy, why did I catch you with your hand in the cookie jar?
Timmy: Because I didn't hear you coming!

RIDDLE ANSWER

There is no dirt in a hole or it wouldn't be a hole.

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be.
—Lao Tzu



CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

PARENTING



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think the woman is looking at the child in such a way?
2. Do you think parents should keep children's drawings?
3. Do you think children should be allowed to draw freely, or should they be given instructions on how to draw?
4. What are some fun activities to do with makers, or crayons?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

markers | bin | trace | overalls | scowl

RIDDLE

You can't keep this until you've given it. What is it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. How many children is it ideal to have?
2. Do you have a preference in having either male or female children?
3. Should a mother give up her job to raise her children?
4. What are some things that you experienced that you would prevent your children from experiencing?
5. Who is the ideal person to take care of a child?
6. What are some great activities for a father, mother, to do with their child?
7. How should children be punished for misbehavior?
8. What kind of games should a child play?
9. Should boys and girls follow different rules?
10. Should children do chores?
11. Is it okay for couples to be child-less?
12. How should parents deal with a “gay” child?
13. How would you treat your child’s education?
14. What do you think about home schooling?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

found | pamper | produce | bring into existence | duties | resemble | discipline | caretaker | spank | deny | ignore | fail | end | refuse

IDIOMS

(to) keep one’s eye on the prize
to persist for the end results; to not let small failures stop you
Leslie, don't let anyone dissuade you or talk you out of it, and just keep your eye on the prize.

(to) bad-mouth
to speak poorly of someone; to speak with disrespect about someone
Evelyn likes to bad-mouth everyone, so be careful about what you divulge to her.

(to be) crazy about
to like very much
Sally is crazy about the new album that just came out.

(to) live it up
to enjoy oneself, usually by spending a lot of money
Lewis is really living it up in Vegas, after his divorce.

(to) have a lot on one’s plate
to have much to do; to have more than one has time to do
David has a lot on his plate now, so he won't be able to finish at the scheduled time.

VERBAL PHRASES

take up
to become interested, or engaged in a pursuit; to occupy time, or attention
He took up the work that she couldn't complete.

work on
to exert effort in order to do, make, or perform something
Are you still working on building that simulator?

let down
to fail to meet the expectations of; to disappoint; to withdraw support from
She let you down again, but I know you still love her.

turn away
to reject; to dismiss; to send away
If any solicitors come by, turn them away.

catch out
to trap someone doing something they shouldn't be doing
Although you will never admit it, you were caught out in a lie, and that is why you are on the street.

SLANG

no-brainer
an easy question to answer; something not difficult to understand
I don't know how you could possibly miss that; it was a no-brainer.

nuke
to microwave something
I don't care that the pizza is a week old, just nuke it.

off limits

forbidden; banned; off limits
Russell, things beyond that line are off limits, so don't cross it.

off the hook
pardoned; exonerated; let off
Roan, you're lucky that Amber let you off the hook, even after all you did to her.

on the ball
to be competent, or exhibit competence at something
You have to always be on the ball, if you expect to be here long.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What do you think of parents who “pamper” their children?
2. How do you think divorce affects a child?
3. Would you ever adopt a child?
4. What should children not be exposed to when they are young?
5. Should children be consulted in the family decision making process?
6. In what ways should children be shown affection?
7. Do you think children should be required to play sports?
8. How soon after establishing a relationship would it be a good idea to have children?
9. What is a good age to have children?
10. What do you think makes the difference between a good parent and a great parent?
11. What are some reasons couples should not have children?
12. Do you believe in “tough love?”
13. How much technology should children be exposed to?
14. Do you think one should prohibit children from some friendships?
15. At what age would you feel comfortable allowing your child to spend the night outside the home?
16. What do you most fear about what your child might become?

PROVERBS

What signifies knowing the names if you know not the natures of things?

Glass, China and Reputation are easily cracked and never well mended.

He that best understands the world, least likes it.

Most people return small favors, acknowledge middling ones, and repay great ones with ingratitude.

Sudden power is apt to be insolent, sudden liberty saucy, that balances best which has grown gradually.

QUOTES

> It's a sad moment, really, when parents first become a bit frightened of their children.
>
> Ama Ata Aidoo

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

I don't know any parents that look into the eyes of a newborn baby and say, how can we screw this kid up.

Russell Bishop

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

No fathers or mothers think their own children ugly.

Miguel de Cervantes

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. How effective is the quote in affecting you? Why?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

The most important thing that parents can teach their children is how to get along without them.

Frank A. Clark

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

If you have never been hated by your child, you have never been a parent.

Bette Davis

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

DEBATE

Every citizen should work for some time in a government institution.

Alcohol should be illegal.

FACT

If you're not feeling well and wish to go to the hospital to get better, you better think twice! Hospitals kill around 210,000 people per year even though the death was preventable.

JOKE

Q: What do computers eat when they get hungry?
A: Chips.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A promise

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.
> —Thomas Jefferson



CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

PET PEEVES



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Looking at the picture, what can you imagine happened?
2. Do you think children being spoiled?
3. How should a parent deal with a child that has thrown a fit in public?
4. Have you ever seen a child throw a tantrum?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

grumpy | tantrum | sullen | fit | wooden bench

RIDDLE

What goes up and down without moving?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some things that annoy you?
2. What annoys you about your friends?
3. What annoys you about your co-workers or classmates?
4. Do salespeople annoy you?
5. What technology annoys you?
6. What is the most annoying thing you've had to endure?
7. What common behavior annoys you?
8. What are some impolite things other do that annoy you?
9. Does it bother you when people smoke near you?
10. Does it bother you when people litter?
11. What annoys you when you are outside? (People, traffic, etc.)
12. What behavior is okay for a woman to do but not for a man? (vice-versa?)
13. Has someone you've just met upset you?
14. What behavior at the dinning table annoy you?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

seductive | spotless | captivating | dazzling | tantalizing | toxic | profanity | objectionable | capricious | grievance | complaint | aversion

IDIOMS

things are looking up
things are getting better

Gina has been struggling lately, but things are looking up as she's gotten back in touch with her mother again.

short by
to not have enough by some amount; still missing some
Michael, because you're short by $20, you can't take it.

(to) part with
to give up something reluctantly
I know it was difficult for Judith to part with her teddy bear, but she's 30 years old!

(to) read between the lines
to understand hinted at but not directly expressed communication; to interpret without direct evidence
You're going to have to read between the lines, whenever Leon makes a speech.

(to) do whatever it takes
to do anything and everything necessary to accomplish some task or reach a goal
Blake needed the report done as quickly as possible so he instructed us to do whatever it takes.

VERBAL PHRASES

put forward
to propose for consideration
If anyone can put forward a solution, don't hesitate.

back out
to withdraw from a commitment
You cannot win, so you will need to back out.

run across
to meet, or find by chance
Have you run across anything that we could use?

ask after
to inquire about
Lolita asked after you, when I met her yesterday.

brush off
a rejection, or dismissal in which someone, or something is treated as unimportant
You can't just brush off these complaints.

SLANG

on the make
ambitious; attempting to move up in the world
Rudy is eating everyone's lunch, so watch out. He's on the make.

out of shape
easy to debilitate; worn out; fat
Kenneth, and his wife Bea are really out of shape lately.

pad
home; house
When are you going to let me see your pad, Marla?

parrot
a person who repeats words but does not necessarily understand the meaning
You should double check that he can do the work, because he will just parrot your instructions back to you.

pawn
a person who submissively works for another
I can't stand him. He acts like nothing more than a pawn.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Does not washing hands after using the restroom annoy you?
2. What immature behavior have you had to put up with?
3. How can children be annoying?
4. How do you decide you don't want to talk to a person anymore?
5. What is something that was at first annoying but now you tolerate?
6. How would you recommend people accept some tolerating behavior?
7. What annoying things have you seen on TV?
8. What things in your day to day life annoy you?
9. What do you think would happen if you spoke your mind to someone annoying?
10. What annoying words do people use?
11. What was annoying about school?
12. What teacher has been the most annoying?
13. What kinds of people annoy you most?
14. Does disorganization annoy you?
15. What annoys you while shopping?

PROVERBS

Wish not so much to live long as to live well.

For age and want save while you may; No morning sun lasts a whole day.

If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading or do things worth writing.

Wealth is not his that has it, but his that enjoys it.

Who has deceived thee as often as thyself?

QUOTES

> I don't have pet peeves like some people. I have whole kennels of irritation.
> Whoopi Goldberg

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> I have so man pet peeves that I can't even pet them all. And damn I wish they were furry.
> Jarod Kintz

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger

people?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

---

telling me to "calm down" is the fastest way to irritate me.
Unknown

Questions:
1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

People who say that small things don't bother them have never slept in a room with a mosquito.
Dennis Rainey

Questions:
1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?

4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> I have this pet peeve which is when I read a novel I don't want to hit page 200 and have to go back to the beginning to figure out which character is which.
>
> Carl Hiaasen

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

DEBATE

Women should be allowed to go topless in public.

Smoking should be permitted in public places.

FACT

A surgeon once left a man anesthetized and sliced open so that he could run a quick errand to his bank. The surgeon's name was David Arndt.

JOKE

Q: What happened when the owl lost his voice?

A: He didn't give a hoot!

RIDDLE ANSWER

Stairs

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Money is a wonderful thing, but it is possible to pay too high a price for it.
—Alexander Bloch



CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

ENGLISH LANGUAGE



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you think the students are enjoying themselves?
2. What are some useful activities for students to learn English quicker?
3. What are some fun things you've done in a classroom before?
4. Do you think this is an efficient learning activity?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

assembly | white board | marker | loiter | amusing | engaged

RIDDLE

Imagine you're in a dark room. How do you get out?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. How important is English for you?
2. What are some of the most difficult things about English?
3. What languages do you think are useful?
4. Have you ever had a pen pal? What was it like?
5. Do you think that languages that are disappearing should be protected? Why?
6. When you study English, how important is studying reading, and writing?
7. Have you ever tried discussing your emotions in English?
8. Have you ever used a concordance to study English?
9. What techniques do you use to improve your English speaking ability?
10. If you were trying to speak to someone who doesn't speak your language, and you could not understand each other through non-verbal communication, what would you do?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

diligent | studious | British | fish and chips | crumpet | careless | prejudiced | perfunctory | incurious | uninterested

IDIOMS

(to) do one's best
to try as hard as one possibly can
Alexis is fine with the results, so long as you do your best.

(to) catch up on
to exchange what information has been had since last meeting
Carson, please catch up on what we're doing next with Kayla.

(to) go through a rough patch
to go through some time of increased hardships
Fred and Bertha went through a rough patch, as soon as Fred found out how bad of a cook Bertha could be.

(to) take a break
to pause, and rest from an activity
Martin, you've been on that computer all day, take a break.

flat broke
poor; without money
Gerald, I don't have any money to lend. I'm flat broke.

VERBAL PHRASES

turn in
to give something back to whoever is responsible for it; to hand in, or send in
You have to turn in all of the assignments, before the end of the month.

pull ahead
to move in front of, or gain a lead over somebody, or something moving in the same direction
If you are capable, pull ahead as soon as you get the chance.

look out for
to watch for somebody, or something
Look out for thieves late at night.

give away
reveal; divulge
Don't give away your secrets to anyone.

hang on
to hold on tightly; grasp; latch on
Always hang on to your beliefs.

SLANG

cake walk
something easy to accomplish
Although you find it impossible, it's a cake walk for me.

can of worms
something complex and uncontrollable
Terry, if you're going to tell Gloria the truth, you're only going to open up a can of worms.

caper
mischief; escapade; shenanigan
Fred's little caper with his pals woke up the whole neighborhood.

carded
to check someone's identification
Betty looks too young to be in here, so I'm sure she'll get carded by the bouncer.

catty
deliberately hurtful in one's remarks; spiteful
Whenever Janet and Lisa get together, they're always catty, because of all they know about each other.



QUESTION BLOCK B

1. How important is grammar in learning a language?
2. What are some strange things you've noticed about English?
3. What are some funny things about English?
4. Can anyone studying business be successful without English?
5. What's the strangest language you've ever heard of?
6. How does English compare to other languages you know about?
7. How much history do you know of the English language?

PROVERBS

Teach your child to hold his tongue, he'll learn fast enough to speak.

In rivers and bad governments, the lightest things swim at top.

Cut the wings of your hens and hopes, lest they lead you a weary dance after them.

Would you live with ease, do what you ought, not what you please.

The horse thinks one thing, and he that saddles him another.

QUOTES

> Erudition. Dust shaken out of a book into an empty skull.
>
> Ambrose Bierce

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> A mere scholar, a mere ass.
>
> Robert Burton

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> The office of the scholar is to cheer, to raise, and to guide men by showing them facts amidst appearances. He plies the slow, unhonored, and unpaid task of observation. He is the world's eye.
>
> Ralph Waldo Emerson

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> I am not able to instruct you. I can only tell that I have chosen wrong. I have passed my time in study without experience; in the attainment of sciences which can, for the most part, be but remotely useful to mankind. I have purchased knowledge at the expense of all the common comforts of life: I have missed the endearing elegance of female friendship, and the happy commerce of domestic tenderness.
>
> Samuel Johnson

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The success of great scholars and thinkers is commonly a courtier-like success, not kingly, not manly.
>
> Henry David Thoreau

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

Tablets should replace textbooks in public schools?

Educational qualifications should be had in order to be eligible to vote.

FACT

Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike than all of the workers employed in making his branded shoe.

JOKE

Visitor: Will these stairs take me up to your house?
Little Boy: No, you have to climb them.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Stop imagining.

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

The death rate for people who play it safe and for people who live boldly is the same: 100%.

—Patti Digh



CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

PHYSICAL BEAUTY



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think about beauty pageants?
2. How has beauty changed throughout the years?
3. What are some physical features you consider beautiful?

4. Do you think people are too vain?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

contestant | pageant | trophy | judge | tiara

RIDDLE

What is brown and sticky?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Who would you consider beautiful?
2. Are beauty and elegance the same thing?
3. Who is beautiful because of her stylishness not physical beauty?
4. Which person is closest to your ideal?
5. Do you think beauty affects one's success in life?
6. Is it better to be physically attractive or wealthy?
7. Do people spend too much money trying to improve their appearance?
8. Do you think tattoos are beautiful?
9. Do you think piercings can be beautiful?
10. How would you define beauty?
11. How important is physical appearance to you in a potential partner?
12. Is there someone who is considered beautiful, but to you they're not?
13. Are beauty pageants good?
14. What do you think about plastic surgery?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

steamy | androgynous | magnetism | appealing | craving | mustache | beard | athletic | overweight | irresistible | prudery | wimp | dirty | chaste | cold

IDIOMS

(to) play with fire
to do something that may lead to danger; to involve oneself with something that may lead to trouble
Hazel is playing with fire by goading that bear.

stepping stone
some position that allows one to advance to a higher, or better stage of development
Annie, you knew that this was only a stepping stone, so I don't know why you got so emotionally attached to the place.

it’s my treat
to be the one to pay for something
Donald, it's my treat, since it's your birthday.

(to) cut to the chase
to speak frankly; to get to the heart of the matter
Lucy always cuts straight to the chase without any how-do-you-do's.

(to) cheer someone up
to make someone happy
I like Leo, because he's always trying to cheer someone up.

VERBAL PHRASES

call for
to ask for, or demand
You should call for the service man, if anything needs attending to.

give out

to be completely used up; to be depleted
If you don't maintain your car properly, it will give out when you least expect it.

get carried away
to lose self-control; to get overexcited
Stanley has gotten carried away with his ideologies.

talk round
to persuade someone to one's opinion
If we are going to successfully complete this project, you're going to have to talk Louie round to helping us.

turn against
to become, or cause someone to become hostile towards something or someone
Kaya, if you proceed, you'll have the whole group turn against you.

SLANG

pigsty
unkempt; unclean; untidy
Dante never has anyone over, because his room is a pigsty, and he knows it.

piss one off
to annoy, or anger
Ben, stop yapping and pissing everyone off.

play around
behave in a foolish, or irresponsible way
You should really stop playing around with your hair, and get to work.

props
commendation; praise; laud

We should all give props to Alfie, for a job well done.

puke
to vomit
She puked, after eating your mom's cooking.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you think one’s skin color affects beauty?
2. What are some advantages of being beautiful?
3. How have the notions of beauty changed in society?
4. Have your tastes on what is considered beautiful changed throughout your life?
5. What makes an object beautiful? (Color, pattern, shape)
6. Do you know of anyone who has had plastic surgery?
7. What do you think of the proverb “beauty is in the eye of the beholder?”
8. How does physical attractiveness affect self esteem?
9. What culture do you think has the most attractive people?
10. What celebrities do you consider unattractive?
11. Is inner beauty better than outer beauty?
12. Do you think there is an ideal beauty for everyone?
13. What part of a person’s features are you particularly attracted to?
14. Do you think one’s hair can be an attractive feature? (head, body)
15. What do you find beautiful in nature?
16. What quality in human nature do you think is most beautiful?

PROVERBS

Fine linen, girls and gold so bright choose not to take by candle-light.

The way to be safe is never to be secure.

Dally not with other folk's women or money.

Visits should be short, like a winters day, lest you are too troublesome hasten away.

Hunger never saw bad bread.

QUOTES

> Personal beauty is a greater recommendation than any letter of reference.
> Aristotle

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> There is no excellent beauty that hath not some strangeness in the proportion.
> Francis Bacon

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?

4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> I'm not ugly, but my beauty is a total creation.
>
> Tyra Banks

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Beauty is an omnipresence of death and loveliness, a smiling sadness that we discern in nature and all things, a mystic communion that the poet feels.
>
> Charlie Chaplin

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it.
> Confucius

Questions:
1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

DEBATE

Wild animals should not be held in captivity.

Private citizens shouldn't be allowed to own guns.

FACT

In Dzerzhinsk, Russia, Men live an average of 42 years, whereas women live an average of 47 years; the reason, pollution.

JOKE

Q: What's the biggest ant in the world?
A: An elephant!

RIDDLE ANSWER

A stick

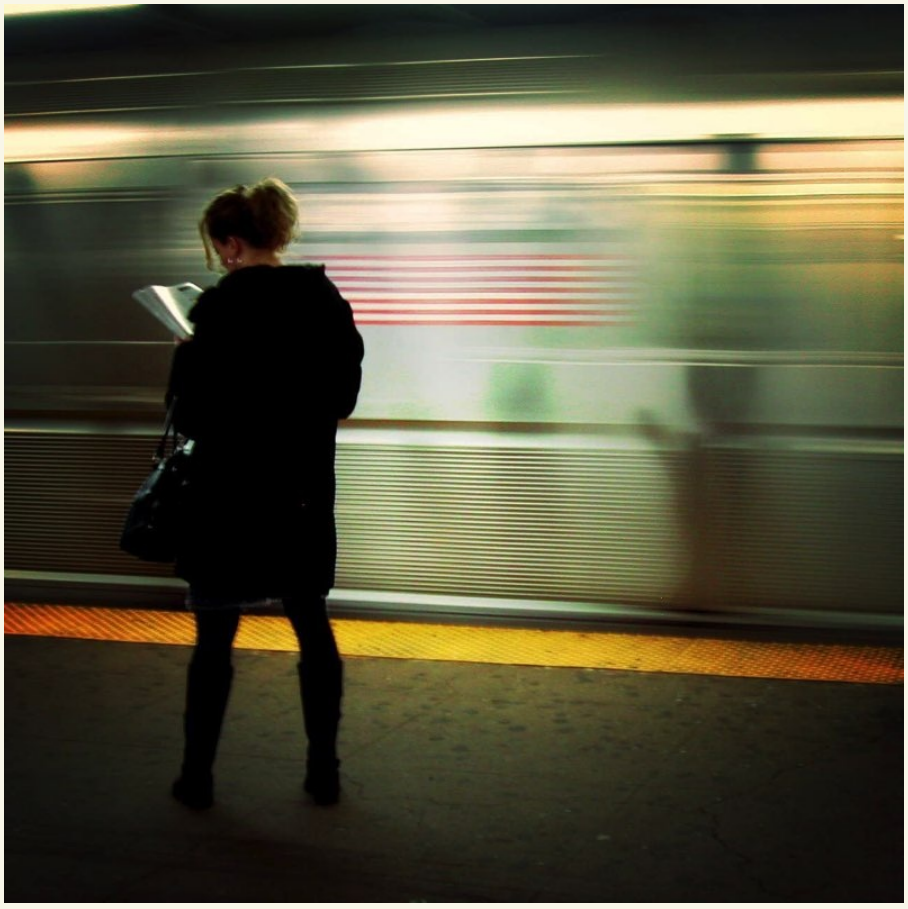
MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Life is what happens to you while you’re busy making other plans.
—John Lennon



CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

READING



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think the woman's day is going to be like?
2. What is your preferred method of transportation?
3. What are some activities that you do while commuting?
4. What are some improvements that you would like to see in public transportation?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

railcar | terminal | platform | commuter | timetable

RIDDLE

What belongs to you, but is used more by others?

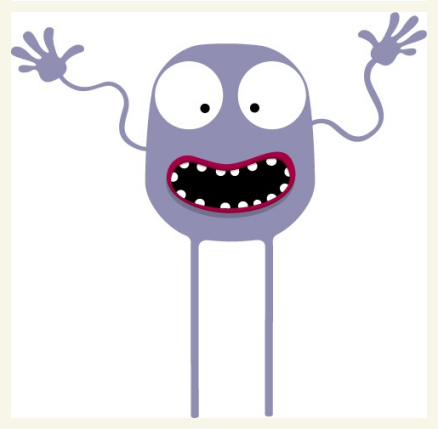
QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some of your favorite scenes from books?
2. Do you have a particular writer you enjoy?
3. If you could ask your favorite writer a question, what would it be?
4. What character has been your favorite?
5. Do you have a favorite story?
6. What author would you consider most talented?
7. Do you have a favorite genre?
8. Have you ever belonged to a book club?
9. What is the funnies, saddest, strangest, book you’ve ever read?
10. How much time do you spend reading in one week?
11. Do you have any ideas you would like to write about?
12. What books would you recommend to others?
13. What books should everyone read?
14. How do you choose the books you read?
15. Is there a book that you’ve read more than once?
16. Has a story ever made you reflect on your life?

17. Has a book ever made you more spiritual?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

erudite | precocious | worldly | succinct | inquiring | literature | blog | autobiography | memoir | scan | ignorant | uncultured | uneducated | lowbrow | unschooled



IDIOMS

over one’s head
beyond one's understanding
Nicole, please don't ask again, since it's over your head anyway.

(to be) on the same page
to agree with; to be at the same stage of a process
Olivia, I hope you're on the same page, otherwise you're going to cause trouble for all of us.

(to) help oneself
to serve oneself; to take at one's pleasure
It's a buffet, so help yourself to whatever you see.

(to) keep posted
to provide the latest information
Travis, can you keep me posted on what Rosa has planned?

(to) go along with it
to agree to something
John was displeased with what the group had decided, but he went along with it.

VERBAL PHRASES

chat up
to engage in light, casual talk
Is there anyone here that you want to chat up, Francis?

get at
to imply; to suggest
Derek, what are you trying to get at with all of this?

break through
to make, or force a way through
Tyler's team has just had a break through in how to process all of this information rapidly.

keep up with
to move, or progress at the same rate as someone, or something else
It's hard to keep up with all the news on the internet.

brush up
to refresh one's knowledge, skill, or memory of
Duke, you really need to brush up on your chemistry, otherwise you're going to look like a fool.

SLANG

rug rat
a child
I don't like rug rats, because they poo all over the place.

run things
to be the boss; power to start and stop things
It's I who run things around here, and not you, so don't forget it.

scrap
altercation; argument; brawl
Colt, you old geezer, you shouldn't be scrapping with younger men who are half your age.

screw up
to make a mistake, or do something badly
Daniel screwed up while he was fixing his car, and now we'll have to walk.

screwy
odd; eccentric
Gavin's always screwy, after eating so much pizza.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Why do you think people read fiction?
2. Do you read to remember or for pleasure?
3. What do you think literature can teach people?
4. Do you think literature should be taught to everyone even science majors?
5. What power do stories have over people?
6. What do you think is the most important element in a story? (words, sentences, characters, plot)

7. Have you ever found that a writer was able to write something you felt, but he stated better than you ever could have?
8. How important is literature to humanity?
9. In what ways does literature expand a person's mind?
10. Have you ever been unable to put down a book?
11. What things do you think literature is best suited to?
12. How important is the title of a book?
13. What are some quotes from a book you've read that you still remember?

PROVERBS

Being ignorant is not so much a shame as being unwilling to learn.

Be civil to all, serviceable to many, familiar with few, friend to one, enemy to none.

Love your enemies, for they tell you your faults.

Be always ashamed to catch thyself idle.

Fear to do evil and you need fear nothing else.

QUOTES

> Authors have established it as a kind of rule, that a man ought to be dull sometimes; as the most severe reader makes allowances for many rests and nodding places in a voluminous writer.
>
> Joseph Addison

Questions:
1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?

2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> In the case of good books, the point is not how many of them you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you.
>
> Mortimer J. Adler

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> I am not a speed reader. I am a speed understander.
>
> Isaac Asimov

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more

relevant to you?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading! How much sooner one tires of anything than of a book! When I have a house of my own, I shall be miserable if I have not an excellent library.
>
> Jane Austen

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> When the book comes out it may hurt you — but in order for me to do it, it had to hurt me first. I can only tell you about yourself as much as I can face about myself.
>
> James Baldwin

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the

quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

Is it unethical to eat meat?

All children should be provided with free textbooks at public schools.

FACT

Peaches, apples, nectarines, and strawberries are amongst the most pesticide laden food, even after washing.

JOKE

Q: What do you get if you cross a cat with Santa?
A: Santa Claws!

RIDDLE ANSWER

Your name

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> A man who dares to waste one hour of life has not discovered the value of life.
>
> —Charles Darwin


See you
next time!

CHAPTER THIRTY

HOLIDAYS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Can you describe the atmosphere in the picture?
2. Are activities like this healthy for society?
3. Do you have a good, or bad memory of a time you were at a a beach?
4. Would you attempt to swim to the islet?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

islet | archipelago | lagoon | reef | enclave

RIDDLE

You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some holidays you celebrate?
2. When you were a child, what was your favorite holiday?
3. What holidays don’t you enjoy?
4. Are there special foods connected to holidays?
5. How important is gift giving to holidays?
6. Do you decorate your house on any holiday?
7. What holidays are not important?
8. What is your parent’s favorite holiday?
9. Do you think holidays are important?
10. How important is it that you spend the holidays with your family?
11. How much money do you usually spend on holidays?
12. What has been the most emotional holiday you’ve had?
13. What is the worst holiday you've had?
14. What special clothing is there for holidays?
15. What is the most special gift you’ve received for a holiday?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

anniversary | festivity | parade | ritual | costumes | honor | carol | ancestor | procession | failure | sadness | misery | gloom | misgiving

IDIOMS

(to) bring something up
to raise a topic; to speak on some topic
Clara brought something up that needs our full attention.

(to) make a fool of oneself
to cause oneself to look irrational, or stupid
Angie really made a fool of herself by running after Ross.

beggars can’t be choosers
people with no other options must be content with what is offered
Jonas, you shouldn't be irritated by that pink sweater, after all you said you were cold and beggars can't be choosers.

about to
ready to; on the brink of
Cordelia is about to spill the beans on all of the shenanigans that go on around here.

(to) break up
to lose a phone signal; a poor cellphone signal that prevents uninterrupted communication
Liliana, the call is breaking up, so you'll have to call me back.

VERBAL PHRASES

stick at
to persevere with; to not abandon something
If you stick at it, I'm sure you'll be able to accomplish it eventually.

dress up

to dress in smart, or formal clothes
Why are you all dressed up?

lie in
to remain in bed
I've been working to the bone lately, so I'm going to lie in this weekend.

break down
to decompose; to disassemble
If you want this to be easily understood, you're going to have to break it down.

do away with
to put an end to; discard
You're going to have to do away with all the clutter, before we begin construction.

SLANG

grub
food; nourishment
Call me up later today, and we'll grab some grub.

guesstimate
speculate; guess; hypothesize
Are you telling me what you earnestly know to be true, or is it a guesstimate?

gutless
a weak, cowardly, or irresolute person
He ran at the first sign of trouble. He's gutless.

gutsy
a valiant, or courageous person

It was gusty for Hanna to tell him what she thought.

haggle
bargain; barter; deal
It's tough haggling with with the unionized members.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Do you use fireworks for any holiday?
2. Do you have any special family traditions during a holiday?
3. What is your favorite holiday food?
4. With Whom do you usually spend the holiday with?
5. Do you like to go to holiday parties?
6. What are some special holiday stories you know?
7. Have you ever had any problems during a holiday?
8. Do you celebrate April Fool's Day?
9. Do you celebrate Halloween, or something similar?
10. Do you celebrate Christmas, or something similar?
11. Do you celebrate Thanksgiving, or something similar?
12. Should children be taught the reasons for why we celebrate a particular holiday?
13. Are there any popular sports played during a holiday?

PROVERBS

How many observe Christ's birthday: How few his precepts!

O! 'tis easier to keep holidays than commandments.

Who is rich? He that rejoices in his portion.

There is much difference between imitating a good man and counterfeiting him.

They who have nothing to trouble them will be troubled at nothing.

QUOTES

> I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up — they have no holidays.
>
> Henny Youngman

Questions:

1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. If you were to take this quote seriously, what truths do you think that you would discover?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> From a commercial point of view, if Christmas did not exist it would be necessary to invent it.
>
> Katharine Whitehorn

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?

5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> The only thing bad about a holiday is it is followed by a non-holiday.
>
> Unknown

Questions:

1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> If all the year were playing holidays; To sport would be as tedious as work.
>
> William Shakespeare

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. Can you editorialize the quote.
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> A perpetual holiday is a good working definition of hell.
> George Bernard Shaw

Questions:
1. What can we assume the author's intentions were?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

Homework should be banned.

Profit sharing should be the standard in business.

FACT

North Korea and Finland are separated by one country; Russia.

JOKE

Q: Why was there thunder and lightning in the lab?
A: The scientists were brainstorming!

RIDDLE ANSWER

An ear of corn

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Change your thoughts and you change your world.
—Norman Vincent Peale



CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE

ROLE MODELS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think is going on in this picture?
2. Where do you think this picture was taken?
3. Do you often go on outings?
4. Can you create a story about what you imagine is happening in the picture?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

pine tree | sedan | gravel | headscarf | SUV | foothill

RIDDLE

What walks on four feet in the morning, two in the afternoon and three at night?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What qualities do you look for in the people you hang out with?
2. How would you describe your personal style?
3. How do you organize your time?
4. How do you make decisions?
5. If you wanted to create an environment where motivation can thrive, what's the first thing you would do?
6. Who has influenced you the most?
7. What would you do differently if given the opportunity?
8. When is breaking the rules okay?
9. How and where do you find inspiration?
10. What books do you read?
11. Who are your mentors?
12. How did you being your trajectory?
13. What does empowerment mean to you?
14. How do you approach the unknown?
15. What values are you committed to?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

idolize | respect | praise | revere | credit | blame | censure | disrespect | reproach | condemn

IDIOMS

(to) throw in the towel
to admit defeat; to give up
Noah has had enough of Vera, so he's throwing in the towel.

(to) hit the ground running
to begin with success
Brent seems to have hit the ground running, as he's already in the top ranks.

(to be) in charge of
having responsibility for
Now that Noah is in charge of the department, he thinks he's hot stuff.

(to) hold up
to delay
Perry, I know you've always been stubborn, but this time you're holding up a very important meeting.

(to) come to an agreement
to reach an agreement
I hope Penelope and Ian can come to an agreement soon, otherwise the lawyers are going to take everything.

VERBAL PHRASES

set against
strongly opposed to
Milo hates Oliver, so he set Oliver up against the most difficult opponents.

use up
to consume completely
Felix used up all the dish soap.

stick with
to continue, or persist with
If you stick with Jacob, you'll soon learn everything you need to know.

cut off
an act of stopping, or interrupting
Henry cut off all contact with Violet, after the incident.

be into
to enjoy; to like
Lila is into cosplay.

SLANG

Judas
a traitor
We aren't friend anymore, Judas.

jump
to beat someone; to surprise in an attack
If you ever take a stroll down this path, be careful, or you might end up being jumped by some of the drifters that live there.

jumpy
nervous; edgy; jittery
Eliza is jumpy, after flipping off that gang of girls at the park.

karma
fate; destiny; chance
Although I feel for you, Ryder, karma has come to take it's share.

kudos

to credit, or give distinction to someone
Kudos to Lara for successfully completing the marathon.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What dreams and goals inspired you to succeed?
2. What makes a good mentee?
3. If you could instruct the next generation, what advice would you have for them?
4. In what ways are you old fashioned?
5. When doing something new, how risk averse are you?
6. If money were no object, would you still be working?
7. What are you grateful for?
8. What in your life would you change?
9. What do you wish you'd been taught at 15?
10. If you could ask anyone, who would you ask, if you had to work smarter?
11. What should keep people up at night?
12. If you had to pick one person outside of your family, who would you say gave you the best career advice, and what did he say?

PROVERBS

The discontented man finds no easy chair.

Little rogues easily become great ones.

The wolf sheds his coat once a year, his disposition never.

Vain-glory flowereth but beareth no fruit.

Silence is not always a sign of wisdom but babbling is ever a mark of folly.

QUOTES

Between saying and doing, many a pair of shoes is worn out.
Italian Proverb

Questions:

1. Can you break down the quote into its essential pieces?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

All of our actions take their hue from the complexion of the heart, as landscapes their variety from light.
Francis Bacon

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

The only correct actions are those that demand no explanation and no apology.
Red Auerbach

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> We become just by performing just action, temperate by performing temperate actions, brave by performing brave action.
>
> Aristotle

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. Can you relate to the quote? How?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> All that is necessary to break the spell of inertia and frustration is this: Act as if it were impossible to fail. That is the talisman, the formula, the command of right-about-face which turns us from failure towards success.
>
> Dorothea Brande

Questions:
1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you restate the quote?

DEBATE

Labor organizations benefit the working classes.

All parents should be required to attend parenting classes before having a child.

FACT

Queen Isabella of Spain boasted of having bathed only twice in her life. The first time she bathed was when she was born, and the second, just before her marriage.

JOKE

Q: Why don't bears wear shoes?
A: They go bear foot.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Man, as an infant, as an adult, and as an old man with a stick

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

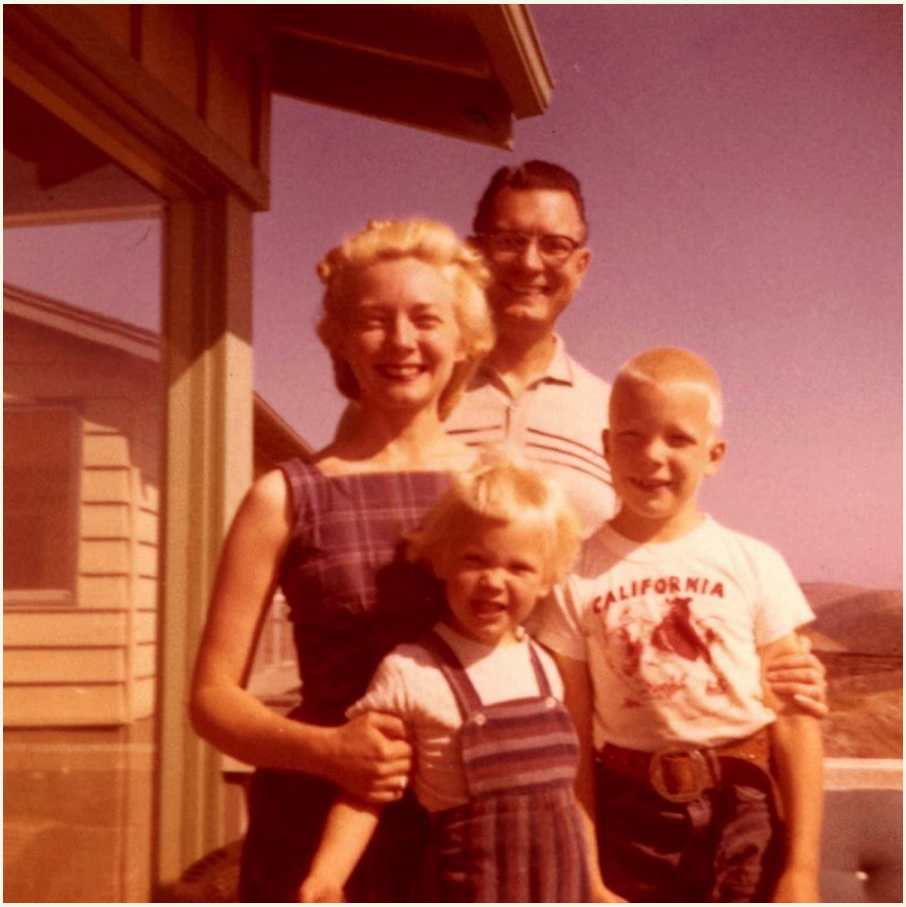
Whatever you are, be a good one.

—Abraham Lincoln



CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

FAMILY



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What do you think it's like having two young children to raise in a new city?
2. Do you think it's a good idea to move across the country in search of a better life, or is it better to stay in an area one knows? why?
3. Is it okay to move frequently, if one has children?
4. Where would you go to start a better life?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

nuclear family | extended family | migrants | starter home | fixer-upper home

RIDDLE

Some months have 30 days, and some months have 31 days. How many have 28?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Where were your parents born?
2. Do you get along with your family members?
3. How did your parents meet? What drew them together?
4. How long did your parents know each other before having their first child?
5. Have you ever lived with your grandparents?
6. Is it a good idea to have grandparents live with their grandkids?
7. Can you describe some eccentricities of you aunts and uncles?
8. Do you get along with your cousins?
9. What do you think about adoption?
10. Do you think it is okay to adopt children from different cultures or races?
11. What family members do you exchange gifts on holidays with?
12. What holidays does your family celebrate?
13. What special days did you have with your family when you were a child?
14. Are there any relatives you dislike?
15. Are there any relatives your family dislikes?
16. What's the most serious argument you've had with your parents?

17. What do you appreciate about your family?
18. How were you disciplined when you were a child?
19. Should parents teach their children about religion, or should parents wait until the children are in their teens to teach them about religious matters?
20. What might cause someone to become a “black sheep” in a family?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

blood | ancestry | kin | pedigree | in-laws | sibling | extended family | reunion | step brother | half-brother | nuclear family | unaffiliated | dissimilar | unlike | disparate | unrelated

IDIOMS

from scratch
from raw ingredients; from fresh ingredients
Danny can create all kinds of dishes from scratch.

to the letter
exactly as specified
You will follow everything laid out there to the letter.

(a) little something
a small gift
I have a little something for you that I brought back from my trip to America.

(to) make it up to
to atone or to compensate for some trouble
Gretchen, I'll make it up to you, if you'd just do me this one favor.

(to) stand a chance
to have the possibility of succeeding

Alton never stood a chance to win that competition.

VERBAL PHRASES

think up
to invent, or devise something; come up with some idea
If you can think up any ideas that are better, please let me know.

go in with
to begin participating in a project; to associate with other people
I asked you to not go in with that group.

take back
to gain possession of something previously held but lost, or given up
Please take back all of your stuff.

get round to
to deal with something in due course
I haven't been able to get round to your tasks, but I will early next week.

figure out
to find a solution, or explanation for something
Have you been able to figure out the assignment?

SLANG

chin wag
talkfest; talk much about something
Roland's chin wags so much, I'm not sure what kind of oil he uses to keep it going.

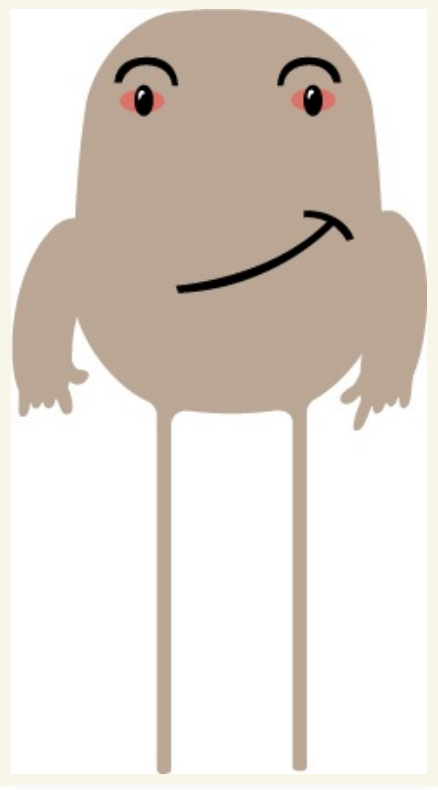
chirpy

spirited, upbeat
Stella becomes chirpy whenever the topic gets to online shopping.

chow
meal; provision; food
Max, we haven't had food all day so let's stop now and get some chow.

clammed up
silent; uncommunicative
As soon as the police started threatening Bill to say all he knew, he clammed up, because he knew the consequences if he didn't.

cool
great; awesome; acceptable
Rufus is cool, so we let him in.



QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What do you think about divorce?
2. What are some things that parents might keep secret from their children?
3. What are some secrets that some families might keep secret from other people in society?
4. Which ancestor would you most like to meet? Why?
5. How does your family tradition differ from that of other families?
6. Should children be given chores?
7. What's the best thing about your mother?
8. Describe the perfect family.
9. Do you think marriage is as important to society now as it was previously?
10. Where would you like to raise a family?
11. Who does most of the housework in your home?
12. Are friends more important than family?
13. Does your family pressure you to behave a certain way?
14. Can you describe a typical family in your country?
15. What do you think of married couples who decide to not have any children?
16. What do you think about cohabiting without marriage?
17. What do you think of people who marry more than once?
18. Should parents be asked for permission, if one wishes to marry?
19. When should children move out of their parent's home?
20. When should parents stop providing financial aid to children?

PROVERBS

To lengthen thy life, lessen thy meals.

Great talkers, little doers.

Wise men learn by others' harms; Fools by their own.

He that won't be counselled, can't be helped.

All things are cheap to the saving, dear to the wasteful.

QUOTES

> Our notion of the perfect society embraces the family as its center and ornament, and this paradise is not secure until children appear to animate and complete the picture.
>
> Amos Bronson Alcott

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. How effective is the quote in affecting you? Why?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. If you could revise this quote by omitting and rearranging, but not adding words, how many quotes could you come up with?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Rarely do members of the same family grow up under the same roof.
>
> Richard Bach

Questions:

1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. Can you device arguments for, and against the quote?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?

4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> You hear a lot of dialogue on the death of the American family. Families aren't dying. They're merging into big conglomerates.
>
> Erma Bombeck

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. What comparisons can you make between this quote and another that you may know?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> He that raises a large family does, indeed, while he lives to observe them, stand a broader mark for sorrow; but then he stands a broader mark for pleasure too.
>
> Benjamin Franklin

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. How does this quote contrast with how you see the world?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?

5. Can you restate the quote?

> The greatest thing in family life is to take a hint when a hint is intended — and not to take a hint when a hint isn't intended.
>
> Robert Frost

Questions:
1. What inferences can you make from this quote?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

Cremation of the deceased is in the best interest of society.

Corporal punishment should be allowed in schools.

FACT

Jennifer Lopez's parents tried to stop her from becoming a movie star by saying it was a "really stupid" idea.

JOKE

Mom: Susan, please come into the kitchen and help me fix dinner.
Susan: Why, is it broken?

RIDDLE ANSWER

All of them

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

There is no passion to be found playing small.

—Nelson Mandela



CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE

SCHOOL



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Can you describe what is happening in the picture?
2. Do you think sitting at a table like this is an effective teaching method?
3. What would be an ideal teaching-learning method?
4. How would you improve public schools?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

student centered learning | collaborative learning | educational resource | annotation | opinionated

RIDDLE

I'm full of holes, yet I'm full of water. What am I?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you still remember your first day at school?
2. How did you usually get to school when you were younger?
3. Did you belong to any clubs while at school?
4. How many students were usually in your classroom?
5. What was your favorite, and least favorite subject at school?
6. What do you think about cheating?
7. What should happen to cheaters?
8. What subjects do you think are pointless?
9. Did you ever skip class? What did you do?
10. Do you think homework is a good idea?
11. What subject should be mandatory for everyone?
12. What were your friends at school like?
13. What were your teachers like at school?
14. Which subjects were you always having trouble with?
15. Do you think female teachers are as effective as male teachers?
16. What are disciplinary problems that you or your friends had at school?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

seminary | school board | gymnasium | night school | academy | bully | commute | mascot | field trip | wilderness | uncultured | haphazardly | aimlessly | inconstant

IDIOMS

(to) do the trick
to achieve desired results
I don't know what is needed to do the trick, so I'm prepared to experiment with everything.

(to) take you up on
to accept offer
Hanna, if you are serious, I'll take you up on the all-expenses-paid trip.

(to) keep an open mind
to not be biased; to be willing to accept new ideas
Stuart, you are bigoted, nobody can deny it, but you must keep an open mind as to the usefulness of having Kim around.

(to) bite one's tongue
to refrain from speaking earnestly; to not say openly what one thinks
Sarah learned to bite her tongue, once she got punched in the face for talking back to someone who wasn't going to put up with her shenanigans.

better off
in a more fortunate position
I think that Lucrentia will be better off by not signing this deal with the company.

VERBAL PHRASES

take in
to understand; to include
All the information that Frank has given us, is a lot to take in.

set aside
to separate and reserve for a special purpose; to put away
Please set aside your squabbles, and focus on the task at hand.

think through
to reason about; to consider
Before you quit your job, you should think it through carefully.

sign on
to commit oneself to; to enroll
If you need anything, just fill out the form and sign on the dotted line.

speak out
to express one's feelings, or opinions frankly
If you have a great idea, speak out.

SLANG

seen better days
to be in a bad condition
That car of yours sure has seen better days.

shady
of doubtful honesty, or legality
This part of town has many shady characters, so please be careful.

shafted
cheated; ripped off
Adam was shafted by Eve who had told him it was all good.

shape up or ship out
ultimatum to someone to improve performance, or behavior

I know this work is horrible, but you've got to either shape up or ship out.

sheep
A mild-mannered, easily fooled person, or people
Those sheep deserve what they get, since they never stand up for themselves.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What do you think about school uniforms?
2. Do you think teenagers are too “cliquish” at school?
3. In what ways do you think technology can improve learning at school?
4. What was the worst thing about going to school?
5. What things slow down learning?
6. Do you think girls work together better than boys while at school?
7. Should boys and girls be taught separately?
8. Do you think it’s unfair that rich parents can afford to hire tutors?
9. Did you ever take field trips while at school?
10. How would you improve learning at schools?
11. What would be an ideal school?
12. Are sports important for students to take part in?
13. What do you think about bullying in school?

PROVERBS

Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing.

The sun never repents of the good he does, nor does he ever demand recompense.

If what most men admire they would despise, it would look as if mankind were growing wise.

He that would live in peace and ease Must not speak all he knows nor judge all he sees.

Think of three things: Whence you came, where you are going, and to whom you must account.

QUOTES

> They know enough who know how to learn.
>
> Henry Adams

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. How can the quote influence someone?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> Education helps one case cease being intimidated by strange situations.
>
> Maya Angelou

Questions:

1. What individual statements are being made?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what

he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> The paradox of education is precisely this — that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated.
>
> James Baldwin

Questions:
1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> Education is that which discloses to the wise and disguises from the foolish their lack of understanding.
>
> Ambrose Bierce

Questions:
1. What can we assume the author’s intentions were?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Can you create a new quote using the words in the quote?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> Studying literature at Harvard is like learning about women at the Mayo Clinic.
> Roy Blount, Jr.

Questions:
1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

DEBATE

Children under 15 should be prevented from playing violent video games.

Orphaned children should be found a home instead of a governmental institution.

FACT

If you're black, and you live in America there's a 1 in 3 chance that you'll "visit" prison at least once in your lifetime.

JOKE

Q: Why don't chickens like people?
A: Because they beat eggs!

RIDDLE ANSWER

A sponge

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

If you want to be happy, set a goal that commands your thoughts, liberates your energy and inspires your hopes.

—Andrew Carnegie



CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR

BEHAVIOR



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you think all these children have the same opportunities in life? Why?
2. Are there certain things society should be doing better in teaching children this age?
3. What kind of personality do you think each of these children has?
4. Do you have any memories of when you were as young as these children?
5. What would you do differently, if you could go back to being 5 years old?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

building blocks | lunch bag | hands on learning | finger paints | cubby

RIDDLE

You're running a race and pass the person in 2nd place. What place are you in now?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What do you consider good behavior?
2. What do you consider bad behavior?
3. Were you well behaved as a child?
4. Why are some children better behaved than others?
5. How can one raise a well-behaved child?
6. What influences one to make good choices?
7. When was the last time you were upset with someone?
8. What behavior would lead you to physically fight?
9. What is the worst behavior that you have ever seen?
10. What actions would you suggest a child take, if he were being bullied?
11. How much do you think friends influence each other?
12. Can music influence behavior?
13. How does religion influence behavior?
14. How does the way others view you influence your behavior?
15. Do you care about the private behavior of politicians?
16. Do people behave differently with their friends than with their family?
17. Do you think famous people influence the behavior of others?
18. Does wealth affect people behavior?
19. Think of someone you admire. What behaviors that does person display?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

manners | conduct | demeanor | disposition | gesture | routine | crudeness | impropriety | ineptitude | amateurish | incompetent

IDIOMS

the issue at hand
the topic under discussion; what is important now
Hazel, the issue at hand is how we're going to deal with the money shortage, not when you'll be able to go on that cruise.

my hands are tied
I can do nothing to help; there are no alternatives
Danielle, my hands are tied, so you'll have to ask Thomas for it.

(to) talk someone into
to convince, or persuade someone
Russell can talk Josie into doing whatever he wants.

tough call
a difficult decision; something difficult to say with certainty
The last move of a decisive moment is always a tough call.

you get the picture
you understand what is meant
Eva, I can't get into the specifics right now, but you get the picture.

VERBAL PHRASES

make up for
compensate for something lost, missed, or was deficient in
We are going to have to make up for lost time by going faster.

check up on
examine so as to determine accuracy, quality, or condition
I know you're upset with your mother, Julia, but you should check up on her at least once in a while.

set out
start out; leave; depart
I don't know where Lewis currently is, but he set out in search of Stella earlier today.

pass off
misrepresent; disguise; falsely represent
Edwin is trying to pass himself off as a good guy to catch Mae, but it's not going to work.

be over
drop by; come over
Wilma said she would be over in thirty minutes, but it's already been an hour.

SLANG

bad mouth
to speak ill of someone
Don't let Susan hurt your feelings, she bad-mouths everyone.

ballsy
courageous; daring
Running into the fire to get your book, was a ballsy move.

bind
predicament, or circumstance difficult to escape
From the look on your face, I can tell that you've gotten yourself into a bind.

bitchy
spiteful; malicious; mean
Even though nobody does anything to her, Eloise is always in a bitchy mood.

blue
to feel sad; depressed
John has been feeling blue all week.



QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Are there historical figures you admire?
2. In what ways have the behaviors of others affected you?
3. Can one gain wealth by always following the rules?
4. What are some ways that you can think of to change someone's behavior??
5. Have you changed your behavior for someone?
6. What behaviors are expected from younger people that are not expected from older people?
7. Are bad people bad because of their circumstances or through choice?
8. Should parent’s be held responsible for the misbehavior of their children?
9. What are some behaviors that you regret?
10. What punishment do you think is most effective in preventing criminal

behavior?
11. What is behavior that is not acceptable amongst friends?
12. Have you ever been embarrassed by the behavior of a friend?
13. Can you think of some behaviors that are “good” in one culture but bad in another?
14. Is it acceptable for parents to spank their naughty child?

PROVERBS

Do not do that which you would not have known.

If you would live long, live well; for folly and wickedness shorten life.

God works wonders now and then; Behold! a lawyer, an honest man.

He that pays for work before it’s done has but a pennyworth for two pence.

You may be more happy than princes if you will be more virtuous.

QUOTES

> I can be very polite, but I've found that doesn't always get a result. You have got to bang and thump tables.
>
> Joy Baluch

Questions:
1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you restate the quote?

Manners are the hypocrisy of a nation.

Honore de Balzac

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. What changes would you make in society, or in yourself to achieve what the argument argues for?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

With a gentleman I am always a gentleman and a half, and with a fraud I try to be a fraud and a half.

Otto von Bismarck

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> You know what charm is: a way of getting the answer yes without having asked any clear question.
>
> Albert Camus

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. What would happen if the issue, upon which the quote was built, was to disappear?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The English are polite by telling lies. The Americans are polite by telling the truth.
>
> Malcolm Bradbury

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

Private citizens should not be allowed to encrypt their files.

The old and destitute should be cared for by the government.

FACT

Children of parents who are neglectful build bonds with the characters on TV, such as Bob the Builder.

JOKE

Guest: Can you play on the piano, Susan?
Susan: No, my mother won't let me climb up there.

RIDDLE ANSWER

You're in second place. You didn't pass the person in first.

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment.
> —Jim Rohn



CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

STRESS



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. When you see this picture, what do you imagine?
2. How many expressions can you name, while looking at the picture?
3. Can you find a common human experience that may represent the egg in the frying pan?
4. Have you ever felt like one of these eggs?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

carton | organic | shell | yolk | egg white

RIDDLE

What can you catch but not throw?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What do you do in stressful situations?
2. How would you describe your way of dealing with stress?
3. Can you elaborate on the things that cause you stress?
4. What sort of questions are stressful when you just meet someone?
5. Do you have stress when someone is direct with you?
6. When was the last time you felt stressed out?
7. What are some ways in which stress affects you?
8. Have you ever helped someone who was feeling stressed?
9. Have you ever helped someone who was crying?
10. Do you think stress is ever good, useful, or necessary?
11. Do you play games or sports that are sometimes stressful?
12. Is your home life stressful?
13. Do you enjoy having discussions with people who have different opinions?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

urgency | import | critical | desperation | need | relaxation | insignificant | indifference | peace | hobby

IDIOMS

(to) take something the wrong way
to take offense; to interpret incorrectly
Lulu, you took Clifford's words the wrong way, so you should apologize to him.

gung ho
very enthusiastic
Shaun is always gung-ho about anything involving the outdoors.

(to) put in place
to implement; to establish
Margie, everything has been put in place, so all you have to do is decide when to initiate it.

(to) not have a clue
to not know anything about
Raymond doesn't have a clue about the goings-on around here, so don't ask him.

any number of things
one of many possibilities
Seth, your symptoms could be caused by any number of things, so don't fret.

VERBAL PHRASES

hold on
to wait; to endure
I've been holding on the phone for the last hour or so.

live up to
to fulfill some expectation
I don't think any son in law can ever live up to the expectations that her parents had of who would come to be her husband.

pick up on
to become alert to something; to take notice of something
If you can't pick up on the subtle signs of discomfort that she was visibly

showing, then, nobody can help you.

come about
to take place; happen
This mess came about because you wouldn't listen to reason.

see it through
to follow through on something until it is completed
I've asked you to do it, because I know you'll see it through.

SLANG

spell out
clarify; demonstrate; illustrate
At this stage of your career, I hope I don't have to spell it out for you.

splash out
spending money extravagantly; spendthrift
Griffin is really splashing out, after the promotion.

split
go; leave
Hugo and Lily's argument is getting heated, so we'd better split.

street cred
credibility on the street, or with those familiar with you; praise from those who know you
He boasted about being a playa, but he lost all street cred when he begged Lucy back.

sucks
something disagreeable, disgusting, or bad

It sucks that David went back on his word.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. In what ways does a too full schedule lead to stress?
2. If you were overly stressed at work, how would you try to cope?
3. What people cause the most stress?
4. Do you feel stress when you have to speak in public?
5. What in your home helps you relax?
6. how helpful do you think alcohol is in alleviating stress?
7. What would advice would you give a friend who is stressed because of his personal life?
8. Do you think children nowadays are too stressed?
9. What are the most stressful experiences you've ever had?
10. Who deals with stress better in your circle of friends?
11. What's the most stressful job you can think of?
12. What's the least stressful job you can think of?
13. Would you choose a stressful, but highly compensated job to a stress free but less compensated job?
14. Is being single less stressful than being married?

PROVERBS

If you would reap praise you must sow the seeds, Gentle words and useful deeds.

Anger is never without a reason but seldom with a good one.

Virtue and a trade are a child's best portion.

Love your neighbor Yet don't pull down your hedge.

Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools that have not wit enough to be

honest.

QUOTES

> I have more zits now than I did as a teenager. Stress zits.
>
> Tiffani-Amber Thiessen

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Training gives us an outlet for suppressed energies created by stress and thus tone the spirit just as exercise conditions the body.
>
> Arnold Schwarzenegger

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Can you formulate a theory of your own concerning the topic of the quote?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you reword the quote?

> In this world without quiet corners, there can be no easy escapes from history, from hullabaloo, from terrible, unquiet fuss.
>
> Salman Rushdie

Questions:

1. What are some assumptions the author has made?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> The only pressure I'm under is the pressure I've put on myself.
>
> Mark Messier

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. What motive do you think the author had in his statement?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How would you restate the quote so as to make it more relatable for younger people?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> If you're not just a little bit nervous before a match, you probably don't have the expectations of yourself that you should have.
>
> Hale Irwin

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

DEBATE

Professors should not be given tenure.

Fast food restaurants do more harm than good.

FACT

An 8-year old girl vanished into the jungles of Vietnam to be seen only after 18 years elapsed. How she survived, no one knows since she hasn't uttered a word since being found.

JOKE

Q: What disappears when you stand up?
A: Your lap.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A cold

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.
—Arthur Ashe



CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

TELEVISION



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. What thoughts does the picture bring up?
2. How would you entertain your child?
3. How much interaction should parents have with their children on a daily basis?
4. Do you know of any great educational programs for children?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

neglect | entertainment center | harmful | animation | cartoon

RIDDLE

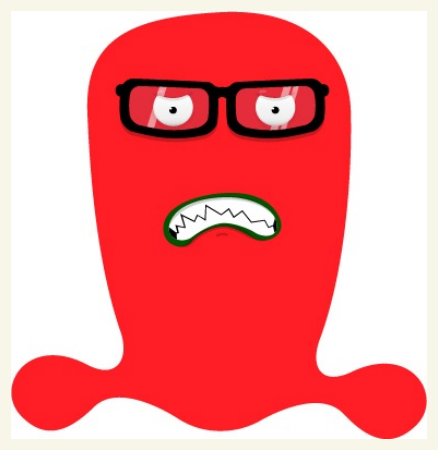
The more you have it, the less you see it. What is it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Do you think television makes people lazy?
2. Could you live without TV for a month?
3. What is the worst TV show you've ever seen?
4. What are some of your favorite TV shows?
5. How can one learn English by watching television?
6. What do you think about commercials on TV?
7. What is your opinion on reality TV?
8. What would make TV programming better?
9. Would you rather be on TV or in a movie?
10. Do you think TV is a good way to pass the time?
11. How old do you think children should be before they are allowed to watch TV?
12. What are some funny TV shows or commercials that you've seen?
13. If you couldn't watch TV at home, but you couldn't leave home for a week, what would you do?
14. What TV shows are annoying?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

airwaves | color bars | footage | fidelity | definition | series | subscription | satellite TV | cable | drama | flicker | static | black and white | indiscernible | low resolution



IDIOMS

come on in
enter
Ralph, come on in!

(to) play ball
to work together to achieve; to cooperate
Leo should stop sulking and play ball.

(to) get back together
to restart a romantic relationship
Benjamin has gotten back together with Anahi, despite her parents protestations.

telltale signs
evidence of something; symptoms that indicate
Alice, your son has all the telltale signs of depression.

(the) best of both worlds
benefit from two seemingly incongruous things
I have the best of both worlds, since I work for an American company, and live in the Bahamas.

VERBAL PHRASES

catch up with
to update one another on life events that occurred since the last time of seeing each other
Andrew and Oscar were catching up with each other's life, after having not seen each other for over 10 years.

follow up
to check something out; to check on the work that someone has done
I'll follow up on the results of your experiments when I get back.

catch on
to figure something out
Your bonus will be determined on how fast you catch on.

fill in
to tell someone the details about someone, or something
Please fill in all the blank spaces.

pass up
to let go by; to reject
You mustn't pass up this opportunity.

SLANG

swap
to negotiate, barter, or exchange
If you want to swap shoes with Julia, just know she's going to get as much as she can get.

tacky

inferior; in bad taste; shabby
She thinks her clothes is the finest in all the town, but it's the tackiest.

take a whack at something
attempt; to try to accomplish something
I haven't figured it out, so take a whack at it.

take off
to leave; to depart
Piper has to take off soon, so say goodbye.

taker
one who accepts an offer; a buyer
We didn't have any takers for our stuff yesterday, so I hope tomorrow is better.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. What is something that is aired on TV but should not be?
2. Do you think TV programming can be dangerous for society?
3. Do you think violence on TV can translate into violence in real life?
4. Do you ever feel guilty about watching TV?
5. Did you have favorite TV shows when you were growing up?
6. How many TV channels do you have at home, and how many do you often watch?
7. What are some influential TV shows?
8. What do you think will come after TV?
9. Do you often eat while watching TV?
10. What TV shows do you like to watch with friends or your partner?
11. What TV shows do you think others would think it strange that you watch?

PROVERBS

Many a man thinks he is buying pleasure when he is really selling himself a slave to it.

Having been poor is no shame; but being ashamed of it is.

‘Tis hard but glorious to be poor and honest.

Meanness is the parent of insolence.

The busy man has few idle visitors; to the boiling pot the flies come not.

QUOTES

> The human race is faced with a cruel choice: work or daytime television.
>
> Unknown

Questions:

1. If you had to say what the least important concept of this quote is, what would you say it was?
2. Can you device a quote that contradicts this one?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author. What would be said?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> The television, that insidious beast, that Medusa which freezes a billion people to stone every night, staring fixedly, that Siren which called and sang and promised so much and gave, after all, so little.
>
> Ray Bradbury

Questions:

1. How would you categorize or classify this quote?
2. If true, how would you convince someone of the truth of the quote?
3. Suppose you had to double the length of the quote but had to maintain the essence of it, how would you do it?
4. How many ways can you analogize the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> I can think of nothing more boring for the American people than to have to sit in their living rooms for a whole half hour looking at my face on their television screens.
>
> Dwight D Eisenhower

Questions:

1. What relationships do you see between the thoughts expressed in the quote with your own thinking?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

> Why should people go out and pay money to see bad films when they can stay at home and see bad television for nothing?
>
> Samuel Goldwyn

Questions:
1. Can you list some examples where the essence of this quote is evident?
2. How can you disprove the quote?
3. What facts can you compile to validate or refute the quote?
4. Assuming it's false, how would you tell someone about the falsity of the quote?
5. Can you paraphrase the quote?

> Television has brought back murder into the home — where it belongs.
>
> Alfred Hitchcock

Questions:
1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. What changes would you recommend to the quote?
3. Can you combine your personal thoughts with the quote to make it more relevant to you?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

Children should not be allowed to watch television unless it is educational.

Violence on television encourages violence.

FACT

73 people were killed and 400 injured just to see a TV show! The Wowowee stampede occurred as people were waiting to participate in a TV variety show in the Philippines.

JOKE

Q: Why did the banana go to the doctors?
A: It wasn't peeling well.

RIDDLE ANSWER

Darkness

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> I’ve missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I’ve lost almost 300 games. 26 times I’ve been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I’ve failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.
>
> —Michael Jordan



CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN

GARDENING



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Do you think too many resources are spent on maintaining this garden?
2. If you could have any kind of garden, what kind of garden would you like to have?
3. Should people be concerned with planting more "useful" gardens, such that

could produce food?
4. If you were to organize a party at this garden, what are some things you will arrange?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

ornament | statue | bridle path | foot path | mulch | pests

RIDDLE

What's made of wood but can't be sawed?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. What are some great gardens you've seen?
2. What kind of gardens do you like?
3. Do you think gardening is good for your health? In what ways?
4. Have you ever given or received flowers?
5. Have you ever visited a special garden?
6. Have you ever grown anything?
7. Is there a garden near your home?
8. Do you think gardens should be mostly for food or decoration?
9. What do you think about GM food? (genetically modified)
10. What do you think about organic food?
11. What plants are good for health?
12. Have you ever attempted to use a plant to improve your health?
13. Can you describe the flowers associated with special occasions? (Weddings, ceremonies, etc.)
14. What would your ideal garden be like?
15. Do you think gardening is a good hobby?
16. If you had a beautiful garden all to yourself, what are some things you would do in it?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

landscaping | cultivating | planting | growing | floriculture | herb | weed | scent | spoiling | fallow | dormant | vacant

IDIOMS

(to) cut a deal
to make an agreement (usually used in business)
If you can cut a deal with the manufacturer, you'll save a bundle.

wishy-washy
lacking willpower; indecisive
Irene is so wishy-washy that it pains me just to talk to her.

(to) lighten up
to not be so easily offended by
Dianna, you should really lighten up. Robert is only joking.

(to be or to get) in touch with
to get or to be in contact with
Tom has been getting in touch with old friends from high school ever since he left it.

(to) have a heart of gold
to be altruistic
No matter what anyone says, I think Irene has a heart of gold.

VERBAL PHRASES

back up
to provide someone with help, or support

I need you to back me up on this matter, no matter how you feel about it.

turn down
to reject, or refuse someone, or something
Will you turn down the job offer in Australia?

get out
leave; escape
If you are afraid of water, you should get out now.

set back
a reversal, or check in progress
She ruined the paperwork, so now we've been set back at least a week.

know of
know about someone, or something but only vaguely, and in no specificity
Has there been any accidents that you know of lately?

SLANG

eye candy
someone, or something that's pretty to look at
You should really check out the beach on the fourth of July. There will be a lot of eye candy just hanging out.

faker
a swindler; a peddler who sells articles of dubious value
Don't give any money to that faker.

fat chance
used ironically to mean little or no chance of achieving something
Ed, it's a fat chance that you'll arrive to New York by sundown, so don't even try

it.

featherweight
a weak, or incapacitated person either physically, or mentally
You should never have handed the job off to such a featherweight.

fess up
confess; divulge the truth
You should really fess up, Myra, because everyone saw you do it.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. Besides plants, what else should gardens have?
2. What are some natural scents that you enjoy?
3. If you worked in a garden, what would you dislike doing?
4. What do weeds do to a garden?
5. What plants grow abundantly in your area?
6. Do you usually use herbs when you're preparing dishes?
7. What are some names of gardening tools?
8. How natural should a garden be allowed to become? Should plants be trimmed frequently?
9. Do you think a garden should have a "theme?"
10. What are some essential things a "spectacular" garden should have?
11. What are some "surprises" that you can place in a garden to amuse visitors?
12. Do you think poisonous plants should be eradicated?
13. Have you ever been bitten or stung by some animal while you were around a garden?
14. What do you think of garden gnomes?

PROVERBS

Where there is hunger, law is not regarded; and where law is not regarded, there

will be hunger.

There are lazy minds as well as lazy bodies.

Wish not so much to live long, as to live well.

Tart words make no friends: a spoonful of honey will catch more flies than a gallon of vinegar.

As pride increases, fortune declines.

QUOTES

> I value my garden more for being full of blackbirds than of cherries, and very frankly give them fruit for their songs.
>
> Joseph Addison

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Earth is here so kind, that just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest.
>
> Douglas William Jerrold

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> The best place to seek God is in a garden. You can dig for him there.
>
> George Bernard Shaw

Questions:

1. What questions does this quote raise for you?
2. What are some errors in the quote?
3. Suppose you could influence the author to increase the relevance of his quote to more people, what would you say?
4. Imagine yourself in the position of the writer, and tell me about your views.
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> A garden must be looked into, and dressed as the body.
>
> George Herbert

Questions:

1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?

3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Such as are your habitual thoughts, such also will be the character of your mind; for the soul is dyed by the thoughts.
>
> Marcus Aurelius

Questions:
1. What insights would the author have had to have in order to come up with the idea embodied in the quote?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could understand it?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

DEBATE

All nations of the world should disarm.

Human cloning should be banned.

FACT

The wealthiest 85 people in the world have more money than the poorest 3.5

billion people combined.

JOKE

Q: What did the pencil say to the other pencil?
A: You're looking sharp.

RIDDLE ANSWER

sawdust

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> The greatest dreams are always unrealistic.
> —Will Smith



CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

TRAVEL



PICTURE QUESTIONS

1. Can you create a story with the items in the picture?
2. When you hear San Francisco, what do you imagine?
3. What imaginative ideas have you had concerning a vacation?
4. What have you ever wanted to do, but consider it only a dream?

PICTURE VOCABULARY

golden gate bridge | getaway | round the world trip | carry on

RIDDLE

Everyone has it, but no one can lose it. What is it?

QUESTION BLOCK A

1. Where are you planning to go on your next vacation?
2. Do you think you could live in another country for the rest of your life?
3. Would you prefer a nice winter vacation, or summer vacation?
4. Have you ever gotten lost while traveling?
5. What would be the most exciting country to go to?
6. What would be the least exciting country to go to?
7. If you're on vacation, and the weather is bad, what would you do?
8. What would be some useful phrases to learn while you're abroad?
9. What country's people do you think is the friendliest? least?
10. What would be a good length vacation?
11. If you could plan the perfect vacation for your family, what would it be like?
12. Do you like traveling to the same places, or do you like variety?
13. What's the best vacation you've ever taken?
14. Have you ever been frightened by something on one of your vacations?
15. Do you like doing many activities while on vacation?
16. When you go on vacation with someone, do you think it's a good idea to have individual excursions?

CONVERSATION VOCABULARY

accommodations | bellboy | joyride | pilgrimage | porter | region | luggage | currency exchange | vagabond | hole-in-the-wall | roach motel | overbooked |

canceled | layover

IDIOMS

(to) get held up
to be delayed
Sebastian is always getting held up by bizarre events.

money is tight
to not have enough money for unnecessary things
Son, money is tight right now, so stop asking me for a present.

(to) settle for
to accept something or someone that is not the preferred choice, but a lesser alternative
Delbert, you're just going to have to settle for vanilla ice cream, since there is no chocolate.

(to) come out with
to release some information, product, or service
Cooper came out with something we hadn't seen before, after laboring away in his garage for months.

(to be) in a bad mood
depressed; unhappy; irritable
Be careful with Cindy, she's in a bad mood.

VERBAL PHRASES

try out
to test, or use something experimentally
Mother just bought you a nice dress, so try it out.

go away
to leave for a period of time
Cora, you can't just make Asher go away.

call off
to cancel, or postpone something
Elizabeth, I think we have to call off the group's meeting tomorrow, because some of us won't be able to make it.

go on for
to continue for some length
Henry's talk about his previous life went on for a long time before he finally passed out on the couch.

stand up for
to speak, or act in support of
Jack, you're going to have to stand up for her, if Finn keeps insulting her.

SLANG

tough luck
you'll have to deal with it; I'm sorry to hear; an express used to show a lack of sympathy
I'm sorry you lost, but tough luck.

tough nut to crack
something, or some situation very difficult to deal with satisfactorily
Despite working at it for the past week, I haven't been able to figure it out. It's a tough nut to crack.

trash

to destroy; to ruin
Max trashed my room, and now he's saying I did it.

unreal
something incredible to believe
Gabriel, your fact must surely be unreal.

up front
sincere; earnest; forthright
If you had been up front with me from the beginning Alice, we wouldn't be in the mess we are in now.

QUESTION BLOCK B

1. If you were abroad, and you suddenly lost your money, and your luggage, what would you do?
2. Have you ever felt cheated while on vacation?
3. Do you like traveling to cities, or to more isolated locations?
4. What are some differences between young tourists and older tourists?
5. Do you think tourism has ill effects on the people that live in the tourist destination?
6. How do you feel about tourists that come to your city?
7. Have you ever taken a wild taxi ride while abroad?
8. Do you save your money before going on vacation, or do you borrow money?
9. How do you research where to go and what to do while planning a vacation?
10. What would a trip with your partner’s family be like?
11. What’s the worst vacation you’ve ever taken?
12. What would be the most romantic vacation for you?
13. Do you think package tours are worth it?

PROVERBS

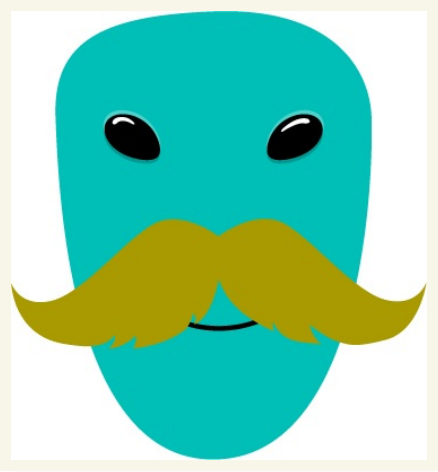
Words may shew a man's wit but actions his meaning.

A great talker may be no fool but he is one that relies on him.

He that lies down with dogs shall rise up with fleas.

All things are easy to industry, all things are difficult to sloth.

Take this remark from Richard poor and lame, whatever is begun in anger ends in shame.



QUOTES

> My favorite thing is to go where I've never been.
> Diane Arbus

Questions:

1. What can we assume the author's intentions were?
2. Can you identify something in the quote that makes it less valid than it otherwise may be?
3. How would you express this quote so that a very young person could

understand it?
4. Suppose you could show evidence to the author of the quote that refutes what he stated, what would he say?
5. Can you recast the quote?

> I am leaving the town to the invaders: increasingly numerous, mediocre, dirty, badly behaved, shameless tourists.
>
> Brigitte Bardot

Questions:
1. What individual statements are being made?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you combine the words of this quote with words of another to create a new quote?
5. Can you restate the quote?

> I have just been all round the world and have formed a very poor opinion of it.
>
> Sir Thomas Beecham

Questions:
1. What are some problems that the quote raises?
2. How would you criticize this quote?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Imagine yourself arguing against the statement of the author with the author.

What would be said?
5. Can you express the quote in other words?

> Through the years, a man peoples a space with images of provinces, kingdoms, mountains, bays, ships, islands, fishes, rooms, tools, stars, horses and people. Shortly before his death, he discovers that the patient labyrinth of lines traces the image of his own face.
>
> Jorge Luis Borges

Questions:

1. Can you connect the essence of this quote to something more tangible?
2. Can you explain this quote using an analogy?
3. Can you device a new quote to make it more relevant to your peers?
4. Assuming it's true, how would you tell someone about the truth of the quote?
5. Can you rephrase the quote in your own words?

> Travelers are like poets. They are mostly an angry race.
>
> Sir Richard Francis Burton

Questions:

1. On what part of the human experience does this quote focus on?
2. How would you rate the importance of the quote to everyday life?
3. What words would you change to make this quote less significant, or more significant?
4. Can you compose a new quote using only antonyms of the main words in the quote?
5. Can you express the quote in your own way?

DEBATE

Everyone should go on a vacation at least once a year.

All servers should be tipped at a basic rate.

FACT

David Copperfield (magician) has sold 40 million tickets and grossed over US$4 billion, which is more than any other solo entertainer in history.

JOKE

Q: Where can you learn to make ice cream?
A: Sundae school.

RIDDLE ANSWER

A shadow

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTE

> I would rather die of passion than of boredom.
> —Vincent van Gogh


See you
next time!

CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

For Students:

Studying conversation for self learners is not the easiest of tasks, but it is doable. The way to go about it is by considering a question, and answering it as if you were responding to someone who had just asked you the question.

You may wonder, how will I know if I answered incorrectly? As this book is intended for advanced English students, I'm hoping that you have a firm grasp of English fundamentals, so you'll naturally avoid speaking incorrectly. I'm sure your responses won't be perfect, but they should be good enough. The main benefit that I'm hoping to achieve with a self learner is that of having him respond to the question while thinking in English. If an attempt is made to answer the questions in English, even if silently, then a series of processes will go in the student's head in which they start formulating scenarios. This scenarios would of course be in English, and that is where the benefits lie, in the practice of English, even if the practice is with oneself

Furthermore, if you attempt to answer each question with answers that are longer than a single, simple sentence, you'll soon begin using more complex language. I have provided subordinating conjunctions for this reason. They will help you consider possible phrasings. In addition, I have also provided a list of the most common prepositions.

If you attempt to use prepositions, and subordinating conjunction in your responses, you should gain some benefit. How much benefit? That depends on

the extent of the answers you provide.

For Teachers:

I have provided enough material in each chapter to serve you well for at least two hours. In the past I grew frustrated with students who would be given perhaps 30 questions in a class, and they would breeze through them in 5 minutes thinking that they had finished. So, in this book you'll find enough material for activities for at least a year long course, provided that it's a fairly standard university course of two hours per week. Please take a look at the chapter entitled: Using the Units in Learning for possible uses of the chapter modules.

CHAPTER FORTY

BOOK SECTIONS

Pictures
The images are an attempt to have the student start thinking about the chapter topic. I have chosen some images that are somewhat abstract and open to multiple interpretations. Hopefully they can be used as conversation starters. At the very least, the questions provided can be answered.

Picture Vocabulary
The vocabulary next to every picture is intended to help the student familiarize himself with some items in the picture that they may not know the term for.

Riddle
The riddles are not correlated with the chapter topic, but they are there to start the topic with a fun brain teaser.
In addition, some students may not understand the riddle, so there is a lesson to be learned in every grammar concept, or meaning in the riddle that is unknown.

Question Blocks
The question blocks are divided into two parts due to the number of questions per chapter: Question Block A, Question Block B. The questions are not arranged in any particular order, but they are all theme based.

Questions Vocabulary
This section provides some vocabulary (including antonyms) that is closely related to the chapter theme.

Idioms, Verbal Phrases, Slang
These words are common and useful. Hopefully they can be used to increase the student's expressive ability.

Proverbs
All of the proverbs are taken from the writings of Benjamin Franklin, who is one of the founders of the United States. One need only turn to him to find some of the best American proverbs.

Quotes
The quotes are from a variety of sources. They are somewhat related to the chapter topic, but they are intended to be viewed as expressing something in themselves apart from the overall chapter topic.

Quote Questions
All quotes have 5 questions that adhere to Bloom's Taxonomy. For further information, please take a look at the Quote Questions paragraph in the chapter entitled Using the Units in Learning.

Debates
The debates are loosely based on the chapter topic. I have written a very brief overview of how to debate, but I would highly recommend that you look elsewhere for proper debate instructions.

Facts
The facts are all true —I double checked: but, please, don't take my word for it. Look up the fact yourself online.
The facts are also there to stimulate conversation. I leave it up to the student to

ask questions such as: How would you feel if that were you? What do you think about that? Should this be allowed, etc.

Jokes

The jokes are meant to lighten the mood after an intense study session. Some may not find all the jokes funny, sorry. But jokes can be quite useful even if they are not funny. If you don't understand a joke, trying to figure out what exactly about the joke you don't understand can lead to a strengthening of English ability.

Motivational Quote

This is simply a motivational quote meant to encourage you to keep working hard.

Monsters

You'll see a monster in every other chapter. They are there to lighten the mood. Don't be scared, they're friendly.

CHAPTER FORTY-ONE

USING THE UNITS IN LEARNING

PICTURES

The pictures in every chapter can be used in a variety of ways. One of the easiest ways is by looking at the picture and trying to name all the things in the picture. If you don't know the name of something, you have a clue on what you need to learn.

You can increase the range of your vocabulary by thinking of the nouns in the picture, as well as the antonyms, and synonyms. Consider the actions going on in the picture, and come up with verbs, and similar verbs. Any good thesaurus will give you a long list of words that you may look at and learn from.

Besides vocabulary, you can try creating sentences describing what is going on. You can create scenarios about what you imagine has happened, or will happen. Create a background story about the people in a picture. Where are they from? What do they like? What are they afraid of? What do you think would happen if you were to encounter the situation in the picture in real life? There are countless imaginary scenarios that you can create.

You can also do analysis with the picture. Can you compare and contrast what is in the picture with perhaps another picture? Does the picture remind you of an experience you've had? If the picture had been taken elsewhere in the world, would it be the similar? How would it be different?

Another way to use the pictures is description. Imagine that you are describing

the picture to a person who can’t see it. How would you describe it?

VOCABULARY, IDIOMS, VERBAL PHRASES, SLANG

In essence, idioms, verbal phrases, and slang are vocabulary, so they should be learned as vocabulary is usually learned: practice.
One good way to practice using the vocabulary is by using two, three, or more terms to make intelligible sentences. You can also try creating a short story. The short story might be in narrative form, or dialogue form. Attempting to use the terms will allow you to develop fluency in the use of these terms.

JOKES AND RIDDLES

I included jokes, and riddles because they are hard to master. The language is usually ambiguous, and complex. Oftentimes, a cultural reference is made that the language learner does not grasp. Each one of these things has to be addressed according to the needs of each student.
Sometimes, an English learner will know all the individual words, yet not know why the joke is funny. This is often due to cultural differences. Yet, if a student is stumped by an individual word, and how it helps the joke or riddle, perhaps it is in the words signification. Jokes often use an alternate meaning of a word.
The teacher should make sure that the student understands all the words in the joke, or riddle. If the meaning is understood, the student's understanding of the grammar should be checked. If the student still has trouble understanding, then it is safe to say it is a cultural difference. In case of the latter, the teacher will have to try his best to explain why it is humorous. Despite all this effort, the student may fail to grasp the joke's, or riddle's intent anyway. In this case, I suggest the teacher move on.

PROVERBS

The proverbs are intended to help with cultural perspective. Western people's

cultural values are often visible in proverbs. So, it is a good idea to familiarize English learners with proverbs. The teacher and student can then evaluate the significance of the proverb in each other's culture. How are the proverbs relatable? How are the proverbs different? Are there similar proverbs in the student's culture? Many conversations will hopefully be had conversing the proverbs.
Besides the cultural reasons, proverbs are often brief, yet grammatical. The terseness of the language employed can aid a student with his expressiveness. Sometimes students use more words than are necessary to explain what they want to say. Note, this is different from my request elsewhere in the book that the student should speak with as many long sentences as possible. Being creative with language, and using it with vivacity and flourish, is different than using superfluous words.

QUOTES

The quotes are perhaps the most challenging, and purposefully so. The challenge will be in the vocabulary, grammar, and usage of style. Struggling with any of these will be useful in learning. Besides the quote as a linguistic unit, it may be used as a jumping off point for discussion. One may consider the philosophical implications of the quote, or the validity of the quote. A teacher should be creative in using the quotes. He should come up with ideas as to how best to use them in his lessons.
I have provided several questions for each quote to facilitate conversation. But, it is hoped that the teacher, or student ask further questions.

QUOTE QUESTIONS

The questions provided with each quote are based on Bloom's Taxonomy. The questions are arranged so that they build upon each other. Questions numbered with a 1 are analysis type questions. Questions numbered with a 2 are Evaluation questions. Questions numbered 3 are Create questions. Questions numbered four

are Synthesis questions. Questions with a 5 are meant to have the student rephrase the quote in his own way.

DEBATES

Debates are useful to English learners in countless ways. The debate topics included may be used for a quick debate of 5 minutes, or for a longer debate of 1 hour. Each side of the debate should clearly delineate their reasons for, and against. All students should challenge themselves to use proper grammar, and advanced vocabulary.

I have provided a brief chapter on debate elsewhere in this book. However, if a student wishes to take up proper debate instruction, they should look elsewhere. I am also including a list of logical signal words to aid students in coming up with their debate responses.

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

I have tried to avoid asking some of the most obvious questions an advance student would ask someone. The student should answer the questions using as many non-simple sentences as possible.

If a student is tempted to answers a question with a simple sentence, he should challenge himself to rephrase it by using any of the logical signal words or the subordinating conjunctions that can be found elsewhere in the book. If one always uses the same phrases in responding to questions, then little progress will be made.

English has the simple sentence, the compound sentence, complex sentence, and the compound-complex sentence, and all should be used in creating responses to the questions section. Please do research if these sentence structures are unfamiliar.

I have omitted “why?” after every question because I hope that the student will have enough interest to ask it himself.

I have included a list of subordinating conjunctions with examples so that

students can try to use them in their responses. Additionally, a list of prepositions has been included.

CHAPTER FORTY-TWO

IMPROVING SHORT CONVERSATIONS

Some of the most common first questions asked are:
What is your name?
Where are you from?
What do you do for a living?
What do you do for fun?

You can answer these questions in the usual way, but in order to facilitate communication you should add to your answer things which may pique someone's interest, or that would entice someone to ask further questions.

For example:
Where are you from?
"I'm from Los Angeles. A place full of everything under the sun."
From here, it is easy to continue a conversation about all sorts of things.
What do you do for fun?
"I enjoy sleuthing through the internet in order to find interesting puzzles. Puzzles help me focus on my logical thinking skills, and help my creative thinking."

In essence, you should embed information into your answers that could help keep a conversation going.

Extending conversations through recall
In any scenario, you can always add to small talk by including something like

that reminds me of...

Example:
Person A: "I'm a graphics designer" (In response to the question, what do you do for a living?)

Scenario 1)
Person B: oh! that's cool. You just reminded me of a friend that liked to draw sketches about birds. What are some of your favorite things to sketch?

Scenario 2)
Person B: oh! that's cool. You just reminded me of a friend that is doing animation on his computer. In what ways is a graphics designer similar to an animator?

When speaking to someone, try to think of similar situations, people, or events that you've experienced, and try to ask interesting questions that may lengthen the conversation.

CHAPTER FORTY-THREE

TIPS FOR LEARNING ENGLISH

Don’t fear mistakes

Mistakes are okay. Nobody is perfect. Even native English speakers sometimes make mistakes with their English, so why wouldn’t you? In fact, you should not care about mistakes as much as you do about trying to get your point across.

Break down English

English is such a huge language, but start with the essential words first. The top 1000 used English words are used much more frequently than the rest, so start there. Once you’ve mastered the first 1000, go on to the next thousand, and so on. Break some big and complicated things into manageable pieces that you can understand in one sitting. Consider investing in a concordance book. This same theory, of breaking down a topic into pieces, and arranging the pieces by priority, works well in many areas of learning, and indeed in more advanced studies of English.

Rephrase

Every word in English can be used in countless ways. Unfortunately, each one of us is hindered by our own learning, and experience. For example, if I were to give you the word *pretend*, and ask you to make a sentence out of it, it is more than likely that you may come up with around 10 suitable sentences, but then you’d start getting stuck. You’d say that you can’t think of any thing else, but If I

were to ask another student across the world (Of course through Skype), and ask him to come up with 10 sentences using the same word, he'll come up with 10 completely different sentences that are perfectly suitable. So, try to use each word given as creatively as possible, and rephrase it with even more creativity. Mix and match words. If I give you the word *pretend*, look around you and find something as a creative stimulus, for example coffee mug, and create a sentence by mixing coffee mug and *pretend*. Or, think of some memory, and mix it with the word.

Think or speak English everyday

When I was learning French, a long long time ago, I didn't have anyone to speak French with, besides a very good man who took the time to teach me. This was before the internet became very accessible. So, I would practice conversing with myself. I would also look at my surroundings and try to describe French what I saw. If I couldn't, it meant that I didn't know how to, so I would need to learn particular vocabulary, or phrases. This is a great way to learn vocabulary. In fact, if you attempt to describe things in your everyday life in English, you'd soon realize how much you're lacking. I, too, am sometimes at a loss to express something, so I still have a lot of learning to do.

Listen to English

Think about what you enjoy, whether that be computer games, or bowling, and look for English podcasts online about that topic. There is a great deal of audio online. All you have to do is search, and it will be revealed. Once you find something you like, listen to it whenever you can.

Personal English

I believe people should strive to learn that English which will be of better use to them in whatever situation they may come across in real life. For example, a businessman should not be learning classroom vocabulary, nor should a dancer be learning scientific terminology. Learn to express yourself with words and expressions that you're likely to come across in real life. It's just a matter of

figuring out what phrases, and vocabulary you need for your particular situation.

Spaced Repetition

Spaced repetition is a system whereby a tool reminds you to practice something that you've previously input into the system. For example, you learned a new vocabulary word one week ago, and inputted it into a database, now the app chimes and tells you that you need to review the word before you forget it. So you review it, and after two weeks, the app chimes again to notify you that you should review it again. The next time you will need to review it will be in about a month. Eventually, the time spread between recalls will increase. It's a little more complicated than that, but that's the gist of it. For further information, please consult the following Wikipedia page:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spaced_repetition
I personally use Mental Case on the Mac, and iPhone. I've also used Supermemo on PC.

Flashcards

Wow! Flashcards are the cream and butter of my learning. I put everything I need to learn on flashcards, and study them until I know them. The spaced repetition programs are not really good for first learning, so I use an iOS app called Flashcards Deluxe when I need to learn something for the first time. Quizlet.com is another great way to learn using flashcards.

S.M.A.R.T. Goals

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Bound
Specific: What exactly are you trying to learn?
Measurable: How will you know that you've learned it?
Attainable: Do you currently have enough knowledge to acquire this extra knowledge? A person learning arithmetic can't really comprehend Calculus without going through Algebra, so make sure that you have the fundamental knowledge first.
Relevant: What do you most want to learn to do? What do you most need to

learn to do?
Time-Bound: A task will fill up all the time you allocate to it, so set deadlines. Work hard to achieve those deadlines. Three, to six months is a good time-frame for most language skills.

CHAPTER FORTY-FOUR

COMMON SPEAKING MISTAKES

Comparing yourself to others

I remember hearing a billionaire on TV who was being asked, how does it feel being rich; He said, Oh Honey, others are much richer than me, so go ask them. The truth of the matter is, there will always be someone better, stronger, more handsome than you. You can't be the best at everything in this world of nearly 8 billion people, so don't get caught up into feeling sorry for yourself because Johnny is better at using the past perfect than you are. Just do what you can with what you have, and take it one step at a time.

Classroom instruction

Learning English in a class setting with 30 other people, or 15 for that matter is not effective. I know that most cannot afford private tutoring, but if you want the most efficient way to learn English it is this: Know your mistakes, and where you want to be, and have some one guide you there.

If you do the math, private tutoring may in fact be the cheapest option. Imagine you spend $10 for a 1-hour class with a group of 20 other students. There is only one teacher, so in theory the teacher has at the very most 3 minutes to talk with you directly. Besides this, consider the cost of going to class, and the time spent just getting there. I'm sure you'll conclude that it is a much more expensive option once all factors are considered.

Now, consider a private lesson where you spend $25 for an hour long class, but

the teacher spends the full hour speaking only with you. Sure, it might be more expensive, but if you have a list of what mistakes you're making, and what you want to achieve, the teacher will quickly guide you to tasks that you need to be doing in order to achieve your goals. The time spent figuring out what to do is just as valuable as the time spent learning.

Focusing on Grammar

I'm not saying grammar is unimportant, but once you get the hang of the basics, paying too much attention to grammar, when trying to converse, is a waste of time. Grammar, if you are a dutiful student, will adjust itself over time. Be attentive, and you'll pick up grammar naturally.

Speaking with non-native speakers

One of the reasons I created this book, is due to my students' willfulness in wanting to free-talk during class. I believe myself to be a good teacher, and so I push my students, some of them would say too hard, into working on their English, so free talking with their peers, who are at the same level, is really out of the question.

Why, you might ask; because they all know the same things about English. Ask yourself, how much vocabulary does a native speaker pick up watching a sitcom on TV? I'm guessing here, but I'd be willing to bet some chunk o' change, not too much. How many new expressions would a native speaker pick up watching the same sitcom? Most likely zero. So, I believe that free talking with peers who are at the same level is mostly a waste of time, if learning new words, or phrases is what is aimed at.

What students need is to challenge themselves in creating new ways of saying the same things that they've always said, and in being exposed to new vocabulary, and forcing themselves to work new sentences from things they've just learned. The straining of this kind of work leads to growth, and that is what I am aiming at with this book.

CHAPTER FORTY-FIVE

DEBATE REFRESHER

What is debate?
Debate is a persuasive technique used to present arguments which are for, or against a topic. It organizes opinions into an analytical framework that allows the proposed viewpoints to be judged based on logical merit, rather than on unsubstantiated rhetoric.

Why use Debate in English classrooms?
Debate can improve English reasoning skills, and also allows one to see what deficiencies one has in expressing oneself. Knowing what specific areas one needs improvement on allows one to prioritize study areas, and thereby increase English ability quicker. For example, if a student cannot find the right words to express himself, then he knows that he must study words that are relevant to expressing his ideas. If the syntax of the expressed statements is not having the intended effect, then grammar is a likely culprit. Cogency is the aim of debate for English language learners. If a student is able to express himself in clear, logical, and convincing arguments it is safe to assume that for all practical purposes they have reached mastery of English.

With debate, you learn to analyze, synthesize, prepare, and deliver arguments in support of your position. In essence, these are some of the same skills one needs in order to communicate effectively.

BASIC ELEMENTS OF DEBATE:

The motion
The motion, or resolution, is the topic that the debate will be restricted to.
The motion must be a topic that is debatable, and not a topic which is a fact, or otherwise undebatable such as the Earth revolves around the sun.

Key Words
Each party in the debate must define the key terms in the motion. In other words, each party must clearly understand what is meant by the motion so that a common understanding of what they are debating about can be had.

Example:
Motion: Governments should never bail out big companies.

In this motion we would have to ask ourselves some of the following questions in order to come to a clearer understanding as to what we are debating about:

What does “big companies mean”?
At what size does a medium sized company become a big one?
Does big mean in numbers of personnel or in monetary terms?
What does bail out mean?
Do tax breaks count as a bail out?
Are loans considered a bail out?

Definitions need to be understood in their general usage, and not in an obscure signification.

THE PROPOSITION

The proposition team is the team that is for the motion.

Procedures for the Proposition team:

1. Use evidence that is free from bias, verifiable, factual, and acceptable to most people.
2. Use evidence from various sources that allow you to build at least two arguments that have been thoroughly analyzed, and that support an affirmative case.
3. Relate the evidence to the proposition. How does the evidence support the proposition? Make everything as explicit as possible.
4. Whenever possible use evidence that is irrefutable. At the very least use sources that are from expert sources, and that have no factual errors.
5. Undermine the opposition's arguments by trying to find logical fallacies in their statements, or inconsistencies.

THE OPPOSITION

The task of the opposition team is to dismantle the arguments of the Proposition by any means.
In creating arguments against the Proposition team, it is advisable to follow the same procedures as the proposition team.

In any case, each side, those for, and those against, should try to create at the least three arguments to support their position.

HOW TO DEBATE

In order to debate properly, you should consider using a technique called ARE which stands for:
Argument - The proposal
Reason - Your reason for, or against the proposal
Evidence - Expert evidence, or factual data to support your position

The following is a quick example of how one argument may be made.

Example argument:
Governments should never bail out big companies.

Reason in support of motion:
Big companies are private entities that are for profit, so only the most capable should be allowed to thrive.

Evidence
It has been shows through several studies that when a corporation receives “easy money” it becomes less efficient with its monetary allocation, and thereby loses competitive in the long run.

HOW IS A DEBATE JUDGED?

Content, organization, delivery.

Content is the amount of understanding one has of the topic. Any topic can be discussed if it is at first researched. The internet is a very handy tool to prepare oneself on a possible debate topic. News stories, magazine articles, books, documentaries, blogs, etc.

Organization relates to how your reasons are arranged. Are your reasons closely related to the topic? Do they follow a logical path or reasoning towards your conclusion? Once arranged, do they show your logical train of thought, and could someone unfamiliar with your position come to the same conclusions, if they were to accept your reasoning?

Delivery
Debate is not solely based on logic, but also on presentation skills.
It would be helpful to remember the acronym **A LACE**, and imagine that you should carry a lace to present to the audience.
A: Audibility - Make sure all those who should hear you can hear you clearly.

L: Likability - Smile, and be gracious in your body language.
A: Authority - Make sure you sound assured of your statements.
C: Conviction - Make yourself believe in whatever position you are supporting.
E: Engagement - Keep the audience's attention by your voice, your body language, or your wit.

SHARP REBUTTALS:

Be on constant lookout for whatever clash you can have with the opposing team. If you find something that can weaken their position, use it. Keep notes while you are debating, and create arguments using the ACE method.

CHAPTER FORTY-SIX

LOGICAL FALLACIES

A logical fallacy is a flaw in reasoning. Although logical fallacies may sound persuasive, and often sound as if they should be true, there are in fact not capable of expressing a logical argument, so they must be avoided. In essence, logical fallacies are as useful to an argument as, blah blah blah. So, don't use them if you can avoid them.

red herring
An introduction of an irrelevant point into an argument which is usually used to distract from the main point.
We are contaminating our planet with deadly pollutants, but what are we supposed to do, stop everyone from working?

ad hominem
It is an attack on an opponent's character, or his motives for believing something, instead of disproving his argument.
Even though he's a scientist, you can't trust what he says because he's a drunk.

genetic fallacy
A fallacy that condemns an argument because of where it began, how it began, or who began it.
The internet is evil, because it was created by the military.

tu quoque
A fallacy that dismisses someone's viewpoint on an issue, because that person is inconsistent in that very thing.
How can that doctor tell you that you shouldn't be eating unhealthy food, when he himself is very overweight?

faulty appeal to authority
It is a fallacy that appeals to someone who has no special knowledge in the area being discussed, but who may have expertise in another area. It is used to get people to agree with a person who they would defer to in his specialty knowledge area, even though the person has no expert knowledge in the topic being discussed.
That doctor would surely know what kind of art is best, as he's a great surgeon.

appeal to the people
A fallacy that arises when one claims that the held viewpoint is correct because many other people agree with it.
The majority of people like soda, so it must be good for you.

straw man
The changing or exaggerating of an opponent's position, or argument to make it easier to refute.
We know evolution can't be true because we didn't evolve from monkeys.

circular reasoning
An argument which says "A is true because B is true, and B is true because A is true."
I am a good worker because Tom says it's true. How can we trust what Tom says? I can assure you, he always tells the truth.

equivocation

When there is a change in the meaning of a word in the middle of an argument.
I don't think women have to worry about man-eating sharks.

loaded question
When someone asks two questions, but one is hidden behind the other. E.g. Have you stopped cheating?
Timmy, have you stopped cheating on your exams?

part to whole
When someone states that what is true of a part of something must also be true of the whole thing together.
This team member is weak, so all the team must be weak.

either or
When someone states that we must choose between two things, when in fact we have more than two alternatives.
We can either stop eating fish, or hunt every last fish on earth to feed people.

hasty generalization
Generalizing about a class based upon a small or poor sample.
Even though I've just started working here, I know it's going to be a bad job.

weak analogy
When there is a major difference in the items being compared and the similarities are minor.
A lion is a feline, and your cat is a feline, so you should go pet that cat. I'm sure it'll purr.

post hoc ergo propter hoc
When one concludes that since Y happened before Z, then Y must have caused Z
I ate that apple, and now I'm feeling sick, so the apple must have made me sick.

proof by lack of evidence
When someone claims something is true simply because nobody has yet given any evidence to the contrary.
You can't say that aliens don't exist, because you can't prove that they don't exist.

appeal to fear
When someone makes you fear the consequences of not doing what is wanted.
If you don't want to be hurt, you should do what he says.

appeal to pity
When someone tries to make us do something out of pity, not reason.
I was sick last week, so I couldn't have finished the work.

bandwagon
When were are pressured into a position because everyone else is doing it.
Everyone knows that this book is the best there is on the subject.

exigency
When an urgency, or a time limit is given as a reason for you to do what someone wants.
If you don't buy this machine now, you'll never be able to buy it again.

transfer
When one has people associate their good or bad feelings about one thing to another unrelated thing.
The ex-president is on that advertisement selling sofas, so the sofas must be top quality.

snob appeal
When one attempts to persuade people to think that a product, idea or position would make us better or stand out from everyone else.
This must be the best product since most of the rich people use it.

appeal to tradition
When people are encouraged to do something because that is the way it has always been done.
Gay people shouldn't marry because since society began marriage has been between a man and a woman only.

appeal to Hi-Tech
When people are encouraged to do something because it is the newest thing.
You can't keep up with what's going on around you, because you don't have the new smartphone.

CHAPTER FORTY-SEVEN

PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions can be very useful in giving more specific information about whatever it is you want to say. In order to improve your English speaking skills, you should try to create longer sentences by using prepositions.
For example:
The cat is there.
The cat is **between** the sofa, and the bookstand.

That tree is tall.
That tree **behind** the boulder, and **across** from the dune is tall.

about
above
across
after
against
along
amid
among
around
at
atop

before
behind
below
beneath
beside
between
beyond
by
down
during
except
for
from
in
inside
into
like
near
of
off
on
onto
out
outside
over
past
regarding
since
through
throughout
to
toward

under
underneath
until
up
upon
with
within
without

CHAPTER FORTY-EIGHT

SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

CONJUNCTIONS

F.A.N.B.O.Y.S.
For | And | Nor | But | Or | Yet | So

SUBORDINATING CONJUCTIONS

After
Uses:
1 Later in time
2 Subsequent
3 Succeeding
Examples:
After you bring in the wood, I'll start up the fire.
I will go to the park, after my lunch.
After Susan retired, Tom took up the post.

Although
Uses:
1 Admitting that
2 in spite of the fact that

3 notwithstanding (that)
4 though
Examples:
Although the pool is too crowded, I'll go in.
She took a nap, although there were many noisy people around.
All chided her for it, although she didn't care.

As
Uses:
1 in that degree
2 to that extent
3 so far
4 as if
5 as though
6 in the same manner or way that
Examples:
As the students in Australia study, the Americans do, too.
The first group went into the building, as the second one did.

As if
Uses:
1 In the same way that would be if
2 as though
3 in a manner suggesting
Examples:
As if nothing in the world mattered to her in that very moment, she frowned.
He was embarrassed, as if all had seen him do it.

As in
Uses:
1 in the sense of
Examples:

Bring me the coins, as in all those you see around you.

As long as
Uses:
1 during the time that
2 on the condition that
Examples:
As long as you keep all the cookies, I will keep all the milk.
She would have kept all the toys, as long as her mother permitted.

As much as
Uses:
1 the same quantity as
2 however much
3 so much as
Examples:
You ran as far as Jeremy did.
As much as I enjoyed the tropical island, I am glad to be back.

As soon as
Uses:
1 at the moment when
2 immediately after
Examples:
As soon as you say "go", I'll start the machine.
I'll give you the documents, as soon as I receive them.

Assuming that
Uses:
1 supposing something to be so
2 taken as a given
Examples:

Assuming that you could lose 20 kilos, would you be happy?
I am sure that you are assuming you'll take possession of the car.

Because
Uses:
1 by reason (of)
2 on account (of)
3 for sake (of)
Examples:
He smiled, because he had not seen his friend in a long time.
The truck was rusty, because it had not been taken care of.

Before
Uses:
1 in time preceding
2 previously
3 formerly
4 already
Examples:
She came into the shop, before her husband.
She was smiling at all the things she used to do, before she got married.

Even if
Uses:
1 despite the possibility that
2 no matter whether
Examples:
Even if you'll fail at the task, you must try it.
You must go on that journey, even if you lose the money that you currently have.

Even though
Uses:

1 although, though
2 despite or in spite of the fact that
Examples:
Even though the last project was a failure, this project is a new start.
He was happy, even though everything was bearing down on him.

If
Uses:
1 in the event that
2 granting that
3 on the condition that
4 in case that
Examples:
If you see a light at the end of the tunnel, run away!
You will pass the exam, if you studied.

If only
Uses:
1 even if, for no other reason than
2 used to express a wish, esp. regretfully
Examples:
If only all
If your only reason for going there was to be happy, it is enough.
If only I could have a year off work, I would be happy.

In as much as
Uses:
1 in the degree that
2 in view of the fact that
Examples:
In as much as he has helped you, you should help him.
In as much as he caused such an accident, he should be reprimanded.

In order that

Uses:

1 so that

Examples:

In order that things go smoothly, we should implement the procedure.

In that

Uses:

1 in the fact that

2 in the sense that

3 for the cause or reason that

4 because

Examples:

He went towards glory, in that he saw nothing else.

In that he had nothing left to lose, he hazarded himself.

Once

Uses:

1 as soon as

2 if ever

3 when

Examples:

Once you bring me the tools, I'll get to work on your project.

She will go to France, once her paperwork is completed.

Providing that

Uses:

1 granting

2 assuming such is the case

3 allowing for

Examples:

I shall become a priest, provided that the bishop approves of me.
Providing that all is as you stated, I shall make sure that you are compensated.

Rather than
Uses:
1 and not
2 used to indicate that the following alternative is less preferred
Examples:
I shall give you the reward, rather than to him who did nothing for it.
Rather than going to Venezuela for your holiday, you should go to Cuba.

Since
Uses:
1 because
2 inasmuch as
3 during the period subsequent to the time when
4 continuously from the time when
Examples:
Since you are on vacation, why don't you go someplace?
You should take a little break, since your tasks for today are completed.

So
Uses:
1 in order that
2 with the result or consequence that
3 and for this reason
4 therefore
Examples:
The preparations are made, so you can arrive any time.
She was told to leave, so she left.

So long as

Uses:
1 during the time that
2 while
3 providing that
4 assuming
Examples:
We shall be happy, so long as we attempt to find goodness around us.
So long as you are stubborn, you shall not learn.

So that
Uses:
1 indicates purpose
2 in order that
3 to the end that
4 with the effect or result that
Examples:
We completed the menial assignment, so that we could prioritize our schedule.
You should bring the cups, so that I can serve the guests.

Than
Uses:
1 used to introduce the second element after certain words indicating a difference in a unequal comparison
Examples:
I like chocolate ice-cream more than strawberry ice-cream.

That
Uses:
1 used to introduce a subordinate clause stating a result, wish, purpose, reason, or cause
Examples:
I hope that you improve your ability quickly.

Though

Uses:

1 despite the fact that

2 although

3 notwithstanding that

4 in spite of the fact that

Examples:

You ate that bread, though it was moldy.

Though you don't see the benefits of homework, it is essential to your self improving.

Unless

Uses:

1 except on the condition that

2 except under the circumstances that

3 except on a specified condition

Examples:

I shall not swim in that pool, unless it's cleaned first.

I won't go on that boat, unless it's the only option.

Until

Uses:

1 up to the time that

2 before

3 to the point or extent that or degree that

Examples:

We will play, until the sun sets.

I won't give you the cookie, until you do your work.

When

Uses:

1 at the time that
2 as soon as
3 whenever
4 during the time at which
5 while
6 whereas

Examples:

She came into your room, when you were outside.
When you see the light turn green, step on the gas.

Whenever

Uses:

1 at whatever time that
2 every time that

Examples:

You can pick up the phone, and order a pizza whenever you want to.
The troops saluted, whenever they saw their captain.

Where

Uses:

1 at what or which place
2 to a place or situation in which

Examples:

Where you are, there is no cell phone service.
You need to find a job, where you'll be respected.

Whereas

Uses:

1 it being the fact that
2 inasmuch as
3 while at the same time
4 while on the contrary

Examples:
She has completed her homework, whereas Tommy has not.
Whereas it concerns business, John is a conservative.

Wherever
Uses:
1 at whatever place
2 in or to whichever place or situation
Examples:
Wherever you decide to go, you'll likely see something amusing.
We can go, wherever you wish to go.

Whether
Uses:
1 used to introduce alternative possibilities
2 used in indirect questions to introduce one alternative
3 either
Examples:
Whether you go to France, or England, you'll see many people who are out and about.
I'll see whether she's at home.

While
Uses:
1 as long as
2 during the time that
3 at the same time that
4 although
5 whereas
Examples:
While you don't focus on the task at hand, you'll make mistakes.
She was fantasizing about her love life, while she read the novel.

CHAPTER FORTY-NINE

LOGICAL SIGNAL WORDS

Probability Indicators
Always
Could
Likely Must
Necessarily
Never
Not Always Not Necessarily
Probably Rarely Will Would

Quantity Indicators
All
Every
Few
Many
Most
None
Not
All
Only
Several
Sole

Some

Premise Indicators
As Indicated By
As Shown By
Assuming That
Because
Due To
For
For the Reason That
Given That
Granting
In That
In View of the Fact That
Inasmuch As
Know This By
May Be Deduced From
On the Supposition That
Owing To
Since
This Can Be Seen From

Additional Premise Indicators
Besides
Furthermore
In Addition
Moreover
What’s More

Counter Premise Indicators
Admittedly
After All

Although
But
Despite
Even Though
However
In Contrast
In Spite Of
On the Other Hand
Still
Whereas
Yet

Conclusion Indicators

Accordingly
As a Result
Clearly
Conclude That
Consequently
Entails That
For This Reason
Hence
Implies That
Indicates That
It Follows That
Must Be That
Proves That
Shows That
So
Suggests That
Therefore
Thus

CHAPTER FIFTY

CONVERSATIONS TO AVOID

POLITICS

Unless you're a politician, or a candidate to a public office, there really isn't a need to go into the topic of politics.

RELIGION

People believe what they believe, and they are not about to change it because you tell them something they may not have cared about in the first place.

GOSSIP

If you aren't willing to say something directly to, or in front of a person then don't talk behind their back.
If one gossips with you about something, it is likely they will also gossip about you to some other person.

JOKES

People sometimes do not see things the same way you do, so try not to joke with people, until you get to know them better.

CHAPTER FIFTY-ONE

USEFUL WEBSITES

English hilfen
http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/
Online English activities

engVid
https://www.youtube.com/user/engvidenglish
Youtube English lessons

Flat World
http://www1.flatworldknowledge.com
Online study through self paced lessons.

Iknow!
http://iknow.jp
Language learning software

Khan Academy
http://www.khanacademy.org/
Online video lessons

Lang-8

http://lang-8.com
Community of native speakers

Learn English Online Network
http://www.learn-english-online.org
English learning through lessons

Learning English with Misterduncan
https://www.youtube.com/user/duncaninchina
Youtube English lessons

Lingt
http://lingt.com/
Vocabulary learning through texts

Listen and Write
http://www.listen-and-write.com
Various activities

Live Lingua
http://www.livelingua.com/
Language exchange

Live Mocha
http://www.livemocha.com/
Language exchange

Loyal Books
http://www.loyalbooks.com
Audiobooks

Memrise

http://www.memrise.com/
Vocabulary learning

MIT Open Courses
http://ocw.mit.edu/
Online college courses

Myngle
http://www.myngle.com
Online language partners

National Public Radio
http://www.npr.org/
Various topics

Nativfy
http://www.nativfy.com
Language exchange community

Online Writing Lab
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
English Writing instructions

Open Learning Initiative
https://oli.cmu.edu
Open courses from Carnegie Mellon University

Pen Pal Land
https://www.penpaland.com
Place where you can find penpals

PhraseMix

http://www.phrasemix.com
English learning through phrases

Poetry Foundation
http://www.poetryfoundation.org
Poetry website

Quizlet
https://quizlet.com
Online Flashcards

RhinoSpeak
https://rhinospike.com
Audio translation services

Speak Alley
https://www.speakalley.com
Online English practice partners

Spoken English Practice
http://www.spokenenglishpractice.com
Online conversation courses

Stanford Open Courses
http://see.stanford.edu/default.aspx
Online college courses

Study Blue
http://www.studyblue.com/
Flashcards

Talk English

http://www.talkenglish.com
English learning activities

Ted
http://ted.com
Various videos

This American Life
http://www.thisamericanlife.org
American culture podcasts

Udemy
http://www.udemy.com/
Online video courses

University of Oxford Podcasts
http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/
Podcasts

Urban Dictionary
http://urbandictionary.com/
Common definitions to words

Using English
http://www.usingenglish.com
English activities

Verbling
https://www.verbling.com
Online language partners

Voices of Youth

http://www.voicesofyouth.org
Articles of interest to younger audiences.

Voscreen
http://www.voscreen.com/
English learning through videos

WikiBooks
https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page
Read community created books.

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