

TOPIC: WAYS OF SOCIALIZING

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 31 to 35.

When you first arrive in a foreign culture, often your first reaction is completely positive. Everything seems exciting, different and fascinating. It's an (31)_____. If you are just on a short holiday, you will probably never leave this phase.

(32)_____, if you stay longer, your attitude can start to change. As you start to realize (33)_____ little you really understand the new culture, life can get frustrating. People misunderstand what you are trying to say, or they may laugh at you when you say something incorrectly. Even simple things, like posting a letter, can seem very difficult to you. Thus, you are likely to get angry or upset when things go wrong.

With time, though, you start to (34)_____ to become more comfortable with the differences and better able to handle frustrating situations. Your (35)_____ of humor reappears. Finally, you may feel enthusiastic about the culture once again, enjoy living in it, and even prefer certain aspects of the culture to your own.

(Adapted from Navigate – Coursebook, OUP 2015)

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|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Question 31: | A. adventure | B. adventurous | C. adventurer | D. adventurously |
| Question 32: | A. Therefore | B. Or | C. However | D. Nor |
| Question 33: | A. whether | B. how | C. if | D. what |
| Question 34: | A. replace | B. maintain | C. adjust | D. keep |
| Question 35: | A. taste | B. sense | C. touch | D. sound |

TOPIC: CULTURAL DIVERSITY - MARRIAGE

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

Marriage nowadays is a choice people make on their own, but this has not always been the case in society. Thousands of years ago, the average lifespan was shorter than it is today. A man usually lived until he was about 40 years old, while women died even sooner because of childbirth. There were many wars and illnesses, and people had to protect themselves by having more children while they were still young. The parents lived through their children.

Marriage was not so much a romantic love story but a business transaction, or deal. Most marriages were arranged between parents while their children were still very young. It was the

custom that the fathers made the decision on whom their children were going to marry. The mothers had little say in it since they rarely made any decisions outside the household. The fathers would meet to arrange the wedding date and the money given for the bride on her wedding date. The more money and land a girl had, the more chances she had to marry well. Therefore, it was important that her father choose the **bridegroom** very well. Usually, it was someone who came from a good family or who was rich too. It was very unlikely that people married outside their social class. A few well-off and rich merchants got to marry poorer noblewomen and became King's business advisors. In a way, poor peasants had an easier choice as it was less important whom they married.

The practice of arranged marriage is still common in some countries in the Middle East, such as India

or Pakistan. Here, social classes are still strongly divided and very well-kept. Often, however, arranged marriages are a sign that people do not want to **let go of** the past, which gives them comfort and security in an ever-changing world.

(Adapted from Longman Essence Reading, Vol. 2)

Question 36: What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. Marriage as a business transaction today. B. Mothers' roles in their children's marriage.
C. Marriage practices in modern society. D. The practice of arranged marriage.

Question 37: The word "it" in paragraph 1 refers to_____.

- A. marriage B. a choice C. society D. the average lifespan

Question 38: According to paragraph 1, women died even sooner than men because of_____.

- A. wars B. illnesses C. childbirth D. marriage

Question 39: According to paragraph 2, richer girls were more likely to_____.

- A. become noblewomen B. marry well
C. succeed in business D. marry peasants

Question 40: The author mentions all of the following in the passage EXCEPT_____.

- A. People tended to marry outside their social class
B. Men made almost all decisions inside the family
C. Marriage used to be a deal between two families
D. The wedding date was decided by the fathers

Question 41: The word "bridegroom" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to_____.

- A. bridesmaid B. bride C. daughter-in-law D. son-in-law

Question 42: The phrase "let go of" in paragraph 3 mostly means_____.

- A. give up B. turn off C. save up D. give in

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TOPIC: CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 28 to 34.

Different cultures follow their own special customs when a child's baby teeth fall out. In Korea, for example, they have the custom of throwing lost teeth up on the roof of a house. According to tradition, a magpie will come and take the tooth. Later, the magpie will return with a new tooth for the child. In other Asian countries, such as Japan and Vietnam, children follow a similar tradition of throwing **their** lost teeth onto the roofs of houses.

Birds aren't the only animals thought to take lost teeth. In Mexico and Spain, tradition says a mouse takes a lost tooth and leaves some money. However, in Mongolia, dogs are responsible for taking teeth away. Dogs are highly respected in Mongolian culture and are considered guardian angels of the people. Tradition says that the new tooth will grow good and strong if the baby tooth is fed to a

guardian angel. Accordingly, parents in Mongolia will put their child's lost tooth in a piece of meat and feed it to a dog.

The idea of giving lost teeth to an angel or fairy is also a tradition in the West. Many children in Western countries count on the Tooth Fairy to leave money or presents in exchange for a tooth. The exact **origins** of the Tooth Fairy are a mystery, although the story probably began in England or Ireland centuries ago. According to tradition, a child puts a lost tooth under his or her pillow before going to bed. In **the wee hours**, while the child is sleeping, the Tooth Fairy takes the tooth and leaves something else under the pillow. In France, the Tooth Fairy leaves a small gift. In the United States, however, the Tooth Fairy usually leaves money. These days, the rate is \$1 to \$5 per tooth, adding up to a lot of money from the Tooth Fairy!

(Source: Reading Challenge 2 by Casey Malarcher & Andrea Janzen)

Question 28. What is the passage mainly about?

- A. Traditions concerning children's lost teeth B. Presents for young children's lost teeth
C. Animals eating children's lost teeth D. Customs concerning children's new teeth

Question 29. The word "**their**" in paragraph 1 refers to_____.

- A. houses' B. roofs' C. children's D. countries'

Question 30. According to the passage, where is a child's lost tooth thought to be taken away by a mouse?

- A. In Mexico and Spain B. In Mongolia C. In Japan and Vietnam D. In Korea

Question 31. According to paragraph 2, parents in Mongolia feed their child's lost tooth to a dog because_____.

- A. they know that dogs are very responsible animals
B. they believe that this will make their child's new tooth good and strong
C. they think dogs like eating children's teeth
D. they hope that their child will get some gifts for his or her tooth

Question 32. The word "**origins**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. countries B. families C. beginnings D. stories

Question 33. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true about the tradition of tooth giving in the West?

- A. Children give money to the Tooth Fairy.
B. Children put their lost teeth under their pillows.
C. Children hope to get money or gifts from the Tooth Fairy.
D. Lost teeth are traditionally given to an angel or fairy.

Question 34. The phrase "the wee hours" in paragraph 3 probably refers to the period of time _____.

- A. early in the evening B. soon after midnight
C. late in the morning D. long before bedtime

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TOPIC: EDUCATION- HIGHER EDUCATION

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct word or phrase that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 23 to 27.

As teenagers approach university level, a decision has to be made on what course to pursue. In this world of diversity, (23)____ such a choice is not easy for both children and parents. In the old days, it was not much a problem to do the task because there were not so many diverse learning areas to choose from. Besides, there were only a few distinctive professional careers like doctor, engineer, accountant, nurse, teacher, etc. to think about. Most higher learning usually led to a financially successful life. (24)____, the cost of education was not so high.

Today's world is entirely different from the things (25)____ have just been described. The job market is constantly changing due to innovative technology and new (26)____. Meanwhile, most teenagers have difficulty in identifying their own interests. There are a variety of well-organized career talks and student counseling workshops to guide and help teenagers (27)____ what course to take. Furthermore, psychological tests are also used. Certain instruments such as surveys, interviews and computer software can help to find out preferences, interests, or learning styles of the students.

(Source: Essential Reading for IELTS by Humin & John A. Gordon)

- Question 23.** A. making B. taking C. giving D. having
Question 24. A. In addition B. Otherwise C. For example D. Therefore
Question 25. A. when B. that C. what D. where
Question 26. A. competition B. competitively C. competitive D. compete
Question 27. A. apply B. study C. decide D. employ

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TOPIC: CULTURAL DIVERSITY (WEDDING)

Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions from 36 to 42.

Most weddings in Japan start with a religious ceremony in which usually only family members attend. Afterwards, a banquet is customarily held to which many people, including friends and colleagues, are invited. To celebrate the happy occasion, guests give the bride and groom *goshuugi* – gift money in special envelopes. *Goshuugi* from friends is usually 20,000 yen or 30,000 yen.

A typical Japanese wedding party starts when the bride and groom enter the banquet hall together, and take their seats on a slightly raised platform facing their guests. Invited guests are seated closer to the bride and groom, with family and relatives seated further in back. The bride's and groom's bosses usually give congratulatory speeches then their friends sing in celebration. Other wedding highlights include a candle ceremony where the couple holds a candle while greeting

their guests at each table, and the cutting of the wedding cake. Afterwards, the bride and groom thank their parents with a speech, then leave to end the party.

In the past, dishes that supposedly brought good **fortune**, such as prawns and sea breams, were served in abundance. So much of the food was ordered that guests ended up taking the surplus home. Today, the majority of the weddings serve just enough for everyone. Additionally, before leaving, guests would traditionally receive souvenir gifts called *hikidemono*.

Many wedding ceremonies take place at wedding halls or hotels. Rough estimates show that it costs about 3 million yen to host a wedding party for 80 guests. During Japan's economic bubble, overseas weddings and flamboyant receptions with special effects, such as smoke machines and having the bride and groom fly in on gondolas, were very popular. But these days, couples choose to **tie the knot** in various ways, from not having any ceremony to having a modest affair, or still going all out.

(Source: <http://www.hiraganatimes.com>)

Question 36. What is the main idea of this passage?

- A. Dishes served at Japan's wedding parties in the past
- B. Wedding ceremonies in Japan's economic bubble
- C. Popular wedding gifts in Japan
- D. Wedding ceremonies in Japan

Question 37. According to the passage, *goshuugi* is_____.

- A. the couple's
- B. the parents'
- C. the relatives'
- D. the friends'

Question 38. The word "**their**" in paragraph 2 refers to_____.

- A. an important guest
- B. a happy occasion
- C. a type of food
- D. a kind of gift

Question 39. According to paragraph 2, which of the following do the bride and groom do at their wedding party?

- A. They deliver a speech to thank their parents.
- B. They hold a candle and sing in celebration.
- C. They sit on a platform at the back of the stage.
- D. They give a speech to thank their bosses.

Question 40. The word "**fortune**" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to ____.

- A. excitement
- B. luck
- C. money
- D. benefit

Question 41. How were the wedding dishes in the past different from those of today?

- A. They were more delicious.
- B. They were less delicious.
- C. They were served in smaller amounts.
- D. They were served in larger

Question 42. The phrase "**tie the knot**" in paragraph 4 could be best replaced by_____.

- A. get engaged
- B. get married
- C. fasten the rope
- D. loosen the tie