

I took a walk along the beach, feeling the sun's warmth on my skin and the sand under my feet. As I walked, I noticed a beautiful shell on the ground. I picked it up and examined it, amazed at its unique shape and colors.

As I looked around, I noticed that every shell on the beach was different. They were all special, just like people. This made me stop and think about my own life.

I had always had trouble in socializing and comparing myself to others. I felt like I was never good enough, and it had affected how I see myself negatively. But as I held the shell in my hand, I realized that it was important to be myself.

I didn't need to fit in or seek the approval of others. I just needed to be true to myself and appreciate my own uniqueness. With this fresh understanding, I felt a sense of peace and acceptance wash over me. I realized that true happiness came from within, and I didn't need anyone else's approval to be happy.

From that day on, I have lived my life with confidence and learned to accept the way I am. I didn't let the opinions of others bother me. From my walk, I had learned a valuable lesson that would stay with me for the rest of my life.

1. How did the writer feel after her trip to the beach?
  - A. She liked the beach and the warmth of the sun.
  - B. She felt amazed by seashells on the ground.
  - C. She was frustrated about people's opinion.
  - D. She felt a sense of peace and acceptance

Read the following text.

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2. "I didn't need to fit in or seek the approval of others."  
Which of the following is closest in meaning to "approval"?
  - A. Endorsement.
  - B. Comparison.
  - C. Acceptance.
  - D. Confidence.

Damas	:	Hi, Andrew. I didn't see you at school yesterday. Is there anything wrong?
Andrew	:	Hi, Damas. Everything was alright. You know what, I joined the grand final of the speech contest in province level.
Damas	:	Great. What about the result?
Andrew	:	Thank God. I got the first medal.
Damas	:	Awesome. I am so proud of you, Andrew. I hope it will motivate you to be more successful in the future.
Andrew	:	I hope so. Well, the bell is ringing. I have to go back to my classroom. See you, Damas.
Damas	:	I'll go to the laboratory. See you, Andrew.

3. When does the dialog probably take place?

- After the break.
- During the break.
- During the class.
- After school hours.

When I was in Grade 7, our school had an educational trip to an orphanage. We were asked to bring whatever we wanted to donate. My mother gave me some of my old toys, clothes and sweets.

As we entered the orphanage all the kids gathered in a hall. There were children of all ages. They strayed at us with eyes full of hope. We were asked to dish the things out to the children and spent some time with them. They were so excited to receive these old things. From our conversation, we learned that they had only two to three dresses to wear, one plate and a bowl for their food. Even the food was always the same and limited. They didn't have many varieties of food to eat. They shared toys to play with. They could not demand for anything. I felt so sorry for these children for they were missing all those care and love. This made me realized how fortunate I am to receive all the luxury.

Visiting the orphanage was a life changing experience for me. From that day I started to appreciate the little things in life. I don't demand for unimportant things anymore. I liked helping others. I also started to understand my mother's advice. With her help, over time, I learn how to deal with my emotions and situations. These experiences have shaped my behavior and personality.

4. The writer viewed the experience as a/an ... one.

- logical
- peaceful
- insightful
- skeptical

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5. The writer thought that visiting the orphan home was a life changing experience because he ....
  - A. found out that the orphans were luckier than him
  - B. knew the children received the donation happily
  - C. gave toys, clothes, and sweets to the children
  - D. began to appreciate the little things in his life

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6. "We were asked to dish the things out to the children ...."  
The word "dish the things out" in the sentence means to ... the things to children.

- A. distribute
- B. display
- C. donate
- D. bring

Last month my friends and I spent an amazing day at an orphanage. We met many people there. The most important of all, we had the pleasure to meet, play and interact with the strongest of human beings – the children.

We began our visit by observing the children's activities. They did many things independently. They prepared meals, cleaned their rooms, washed the dishes and clothes by themselves. As my friends and I helped the children washing clothes, they were shocked looking at us. The host told us that they had never seen white people washing clothes before!

The best impression of the program was being able to meet such incredible people and lifelong friends. As a solo traveler, I really learned who I am and how to interact and understand people. I felt that the program enabled me to behave more as locals. I was also able to explore their life. I had such an amazing moment and I can't wait to explore the world with Volunteering Solutions.

Adapted from: <https://www.volunteeringsolutions.com/blog/amazing->

7. What can the readers learn from writer's experience?

- A. The best service of an orphanage.
- B. The faithful personnel at an orphanage.
- C. The good program of Volunteering Solutions.
- D. The inspiration of how to get along with other people well.

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8. What did the writer do at the orphanage at the first stage?

- A. Looking after the apartment.
- B. Cooking breakfast and dinner.
- C. Washing all the children's clothes.
- D. Having dinner to the most famous restaurant.

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9. The word **-incredible** in -We met some really incredible people but most important of all... has the similar meaning to ....

- A. strange
- B. important
- C. enjoyable
- D. extraordinary

One day I went to Bandung with my friend for a vacation. We went there by night bus. When we arrived in Cianjur, the bus stopped for a rest. My friend and I got off the bus. We went to a mosque to pray. It took only a few minutes to pray. After praying, I went to the nearest stall to get a cup of coffee. But my friend didn't, he went back to the bus.

When I came back to the place where the bus stopped, the bus was not there. It had gone! Shocked and confused, I asked the shopkeeper where the bus was. She said that the bus had departed since about five minutes ago. I tried to call my friend on my cell phone, but the battery was running low. I couldn't do anything but hope and pray.

After several minutes, my wish came true. The bus came back! Got on the bus and walked to my seat. I was so ashamed when everybody on the bus looked at me. I could feel my face turned red. I asked my friend why he didn't tell the driver that I was still outside. "I did, I told him several times that you were outside, but he said that you were in the bus toilet because he saw a man going into the toilet," my friend replied, laughing. The other passengers smiled at me. I was so embarrassed.

10. The text above is about the writer's experience of ....

- A. enjoying tourism sites in Bandung with his friend
- B. losing his cell phone on his way to a mosque
- C. feeling embarrassed by a shameful incident
- D. having a night vacation in Cianjur

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11. What did the writer do after knowing that the bus had gone?

- A. Tried to call his friend on his cell phone.
- B. Asked the shopkeeper where the bus was.
- C. Went back to the mosque to pray.
- D. Had another cup of coffee.

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12. The incident happened ... the driver thought the writer was in the bus toilet.

The suitable conjunction to complete the sentence is ....

- A. although
- B. because
- C. besides
- D. while

Miss Adelia	:	Rudi, I didn't see you in my class two days ago. Where were you?
Rudy	:	Sorry, I went to Semarang Miss.
Miss Adelia	:	Why did you go there?
Rudy	:	I joined a piano competition and got the first winner.
Miss Adelia	:	Congratulations! I was proud of you
Rudy	:	Thank you, Miss.
Miss Adelia	:	Keep on practicing. It made your performance better and better.
Rudy	:	Sure.

13. Who is probably Miss Adelia?

- A. Rudi's friend.
- B. Rudi's teacher.
- C. Rudi's brother.
- D. Rudi's colleague.

Miss Adelia	:	Rudi, I didn't see you in my class two days ago. Where were you?
Rudy	:	Sorry, I went to Semarang Miss.
Miss Adelia	:	Why did you go there?
Rudy	:	I joined a piano competition and got the first winner.
Miss Adelia	:	Congratulations! I was proud of you
Rudy	:	Thank you, Miss.
Miss Adelia	:	Keep on practicing. It made your performance better and better.
Rudy	:	Sure.

Study the statements below carefully.

I	Miss Adelia suggested that Rudi keeps on practicing.
II	Miss Adelia participated in a piano competition.
III	Miss Adelia went to Semarang for a piano competition.
IV	Miss Adelia congratulated Rudy for winning a piano competition.

14. Which statements are true based on the text?

- A. I and IV.
- B. I and III.
- C. II and IV.
- D. III and IV.

Mike	:	What were you doing, Jane?
Jane	:	I was filling in the registration form for English Debate Competition.
Mike	:	Were you going to join that contest?
Jane	:	Yes, I was. But Mike, I was not sure if I could make it to the finals.
Mike	:	Just be optimistic. You had really good English-speaking skills. I hoped you win the competition.
Jane	:	Thank you. I hope so. Mike, listen. The bell had rung. Let's go to the class.

15. From the dialogue, Mike and Jane are ....

- A. a student and a teacher
- B. colleagues
- C. classmates
- D. siblings

Mike	:	What were you doing, Jane?
Jane	:	I was filling in the registration form for English Debate Competition.
Mike	:	Were you going to join that contest?
Jane	:	Yes, I was. But Mike, I was not sure if I could make it to the finals.
Mike	:	Just be optimistic. You had really good English-speaking skills. I hoped you win the competition.
Jane	:	Thank you. I hope so. Mike, listen. The bell had rung. Let's go to the class.

16. Where does the dialogue probably take place?

- A. In the toilet.
- B. Far from school.
- C. In the classroom.
- D. Outside of the classroom

Miss Syarifah	:	Fajri, I didn't see you in my class two days ago. Where were you?
Fajri	:	Sorry, I went to Semarang Miss.
Miss Syarifah	:	Why did you go there?
Fajri	:	I joined a piano competition and got the first winner.
Miss Syarifah	:	Congratulations! I am proud of you
Fajri	:	Thank you, Miss.
Miss Syarifah	:	Keep on practicing. It makes your performance better and better.
Fajri	:	Sure.

17. Who is probably Miss Syarifah? She is Fajri's ....

- A. friend.
- B. teacher.
- C. brother.
- D. colleague.

Miss Syarifah	:	Fajri, I didn't see you in my class two days ago. Where were you?
Fajri	:	Sorry, I went to Semarang Miss.
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Miss Syarifah	:	Keep on practicing. It makes your performance better and better.
Fajri	:	Sure.

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18. Which statements are true based on the text?

- A. I and IV.
- B. I and III.
- C. II and IV.
- D. III and IV.

I woke up one day and felt sick. I had a severe abdominal pains, fever, dizziness, and vomiting. My father rushed me to a nearby hospital. It was about ten miles away. On arrival to the hospital, I was hurriedly sent to the emergency room. A nurse came, took my details and then examined me. Moments later, the main doctor came and questioned me to explain where my problem was. My mother helped me to explain my condition. After a clinical examination, the doctor told my mother that I was suffering from appendicitis.

Several tests were carried out. I did not understand what the doctors were doing to cure me. A surgery was recommended after the tests and I was told I would undergo it the following day due to the emergency of the disease. Therefore I had to spend the night. A nurse gave me medicine to lower my pain.

When I entered the operation room, I felt like running away from the hospital. I was so scared that I screamed loudly. I feared I might die in the operation room. My parents calmed me down and said that I would be just fine. The operation was carried out successfully and I recovered within 10 days. This event was the turning point of my career life. This experience was very crucial to me because it made me decide to become a surgeon in my career life.

*Adapted from: <https://essaysprofessors.com/samples/personal-experience/my-first-story-to-memorize.html>*

19. The benefit of reading the text is ... .

- A. learning valuable lesson from the writer's experience
- B. understanding more about the procedure of surgery
- C. getting information about how to cure appendicitis
- D. knowing about the symptom of the writer's illness

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20. What did the writer do after he was told to have a surgery?

- A. He screamed loudly.
- B. He ran away from the hospital.
- C. He entered the operation room.
- D. He spent the night in the hospital.

