

ISE III CONVERSATION QUESTIONS INDEPENDENCE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you live with your parents?
2. Do you live with any of your grandparents? If so, why do they live with you?
3. Do you have to clean your own room?
4. Does your mother make you clean your room?
5. Do you prefer living on your own or with your parents? Why?
6. Is money a crucial factor for you to decide whether to move out or not?
7. Why in some cultures do young people tend to live with their parents before they get married and others not? To what extent is this affected by traditional family values?
8. Are you more independent from your parents now than you were in compulsory secondary education?
9. Name some things you can do now that you weren't allowed to do in secondary education.
10. Are you as independent now as you would like to be?
11. When do you think you will become financially independent?
12. Do you think this age is the same in all countries?
13. Who will pay for your university studies in the future?
14. Do your parents let you stay out late?
15. What time do you have to be home?
16. Do most teenagers equate wealth with happiness? What's your opinion?
17. Are young people today less resilient and independent than they should be?
18. Have you ever worked part-time? What did you spend your money on?
19. Have you ever had a summer job?
20. If you got a job, would you give some money to your parents?

AMBITIONS

- What is your biggest goal in life?
- How do you plan to achieve that goal?
- What are your "short term" goals?
- What are your "long term" goals?
- Should parents help their children set goals?
- What are your educational goals?
- What are your career goals?
- What are your financial goals?
- Why are goals important?
- Is having a goal in life effective in becoming successful?
- Is having a goal helpful in motivating a person?
- Do you think people have fewer goals as they get older?
- Do you have any goals that you feel are unrealistic?
- How do people's goals change from country to country?

- What are your goals in your current job?
- What are the main differences between male and female goals?
- Which of your goals have you already achieved?
- How would you feel if you failed to achieve any of your goals?
- Do you think it's a good idea to write your goals down and tick them off as you achieve them?
- How important are goals to you?
- What do you hope to have achieved by the time you're sixty?
- What is a goal?
- Can goals help to change your life? How?
- What goals do you have in your life?
- Is it important to set goals?
- Do you have a five year plan for your life?
- If you can't make your goal, how do you feel?
- What are your families goals?
- Are goals necessary to achieve success?
- How are plans and goals related?
- Are you ambitious enough to achieve the goals you set?
- Do you have spiritual/religious goals?
- Is one of your goals to be able to talk to your children's English teacher?
- Do you think people have less goals as they get older?
- How will you feel,if you fail to achieve any of your goals?
- What is something you never learned to do but wish you had?
- Who is successful in your family? Why?
- Tell me about a goal that you achieved for yourself.
- What success have you had in this English class? What can you do to be more successful?
- Do you believe that people must work hard to become successful? Why or why not?
- Can you think of a successful person from your own county? What do they do? How do you think they did it?
- What kind of success do you want in the future in your life?
- What can you do now to be successful in the future?
- Do you think that money and fame means success?

STEREOTYPES

- What are some stereotypes?
- How is your country stereotyped?
- Do you stereotype people?
- Does stereotyping help you in some way?
- Why do you think people stereotype?
- How can stereotypes be damaging?
- Do you think that it is a good idea to stereotype people?
- How are various nationalities stereotyped?
- How can being stereotyped hurt your job opportunities?
- What is the difference between stereotypes and prejudices?
- Are stereotypes offensive?
 - Funny?
 - Realistic?

ADVERTISING

- What is the most shocking advertisement you have seen?
- What is the funniest advertisement you have seen? Describe it.
- What makes an ad memorable?
- What are the different types of advertising? (Eg. TV)
- What types of companies choose each type?
- Do you buy products because of advertising?
- Do you find advertising persuasive?
- Why do you buy one product over another?
- Should advertisers be allowed to advertise to children?
- Should alcohol or tobacco companies be allowed to advertise? Why or why not?
- What do you think of celebrity endorsements?
- Which celebrities advertise which products?
- Do favorite or annoying celebrities make you want or not want to buy a product?
- Should there be advertisement-free zones?
- Is there truth in advertising?
- What kind of advertisements attract your attention?
- Why is it necessary to advertise?
- Do you think advertising should be allowed to interrupt TV or radio programs? What are the alternatives?
- What is the best way to advertise to children? Adults? Seniors? etc..
- Do you think advertising is too expensive?
- What are some effective adverts you have seen lately (on TV, newspaper, etc)?
- What are some ineffective adverts you have seen lately?
- Can you remember an advertising campaign that caught your attention?
- What are the different methods of advertising?
- What is the most popular way of advertising?
- Do you think that the Internet and cable/satellite TV have become more important than national TV for advertising products?
- What do you think is the best way of discovering the tastes and interests of teenage consumers?
- Can TV advertising be a force for good?
- How easy do you think it is to influence children with advertising?
- Do you agree with anti-consumerism organizations that the child will have watched 350,000 commercials by the time she graduates from high school?
- Do you think the government has the right to ban advertising for junk food and soda during children's TV programs. What do you think about this? Why do you think they made this decision?
- Do political parties in (country) use TV advertising? If so, should they?
- When out walking or shopping in the city, do you accept advertising fliers or free samples that are offered to you?
- What forms of advertising are there?
- What would make an advertisement more interesting?
- Can you buy something and get something for free in your country?
- Do people use coupons where you live?
- What is the most advertised product in your country?

- What is the best form of advertising?
- What gets you interested in an advertisement?
- Describe an advertisement that you have seen or heard on the TV or radio. What was it about? How long did the commercial last? Did it make you want to buy the product?
- What is the funniest commercial that you have seen? Describe it.
- What differences can you notice between commercials from 10 or 15 years ago and commercials today?
- Do you think ads influence the choices you make when you buy clothes?
- Do you often buy a particular brand when you buy clothes?
- Why do you buy this brand?
- Does it give status to wear particular brands like Nike or Lacoste?
- Do you sometimes want very expensive things which you or your parents can't afford?
- Do you think ads influence the choices you make when you or your parents buy food?
- What brand is the ketchup you or your parents buy?
- Is it always the same brand? Why do you prefer this brand?
- What brand is the toothpaste you or your parents buy?
- Can you name three different ways of advertising? (For example, different media)
- Do you think there are too many ads in television? Why/why not?
- Do you know why some channels have ads and others not? If you do know explain.
- Do you think there are too many ads in magazines? Why/why not?
- Do you think there are too many ads in newspapers? Why/why not?
- Think of an ad you think is good or funny and tell about it.
- What kinds of ads do you like and why? What makes a good ad?
- Do you think children or young people are easier to influence through ads compared to adults?
- Do you think it's ok to show ads aimed at children on television? Why/ why not?
- When you watch TV, how much attention do you pay to the advertisements?
- Which advertisements do you like most and which least? Why?
- How would you advertise something you wanted to sell?
- What are the harmful and the beneficial effects of advertising?
- Do you think that ads create a desire for more and more material possessions?
- Do you think that commercials on TV are annoying because they interrupt programs or do you think that many ads are more amusing than the programs on TV?
- Do you think advertising is too expensive? What are the different methods of advertising?

LIFESTYLES

- Can you describe a typical family in your country?
- Who is the head of the household in a typical family in your country?
- Do many wives work in your country?

- What kinds of jobs do they have?
- If parents are both working, does this cause more or less stress in a family?
- If a wife works outside the home, should the husband help with the housework inside the home? Why or why not?
- Are there many divorces in your country?
- What impact does divorce have on a family in your country?
 - What happens to the divorced people?
 - What happens to their children?
- Are there many single-parent families in your country?
 - Are they usually headed by men or women?
- What do you think of married couples who decide not to have any children?
- Do single women in your country ever decide to have a baby and raise the child by themselves? What do you think about this kind of decision?
- Where do grandparents live in your country?
- Do grandparents help to look after their grandchildren?
- Who should take care of old people?
- Do unmarried couples live together in your country these days?
 - What do people in your society think about this kind of arrangement?
- Do people in your country ever decide to remain single and not create a family?
 - If so, what does the rest of your society think?
- Is it necessary to get married to have a good life?
- Do people who are not related by blood ever live communally in your country?
- Is polygamy allowed in your culture?
 - Is it OK to have more than one spouse?
 - Would you like this life style?
 - What countries allow this?
 - What religions allow it?
- What do you think of people who get married many times?
- Do children in your country ask for their parents' approval before they get married? Why or why not?
- Does the whole family discuss important decisions?
- When do children leave their parents' home in your country?
- When do parents' stop giving financial support to their children?
- Who in your family would you turn to if you had an emotional problem? Why?
- If you had a financial problem, would you expect your family to help?
- What is a perfect family or alternative lifestyle for you?
- Do you think you have a healthy life style?
 - Is it possible to have a healthy life style in modern world?
 - Why do many people try to have a healthy life style?
 - What is the main purpose of it?
- What is healthy food?
 - Do you pay much attention to what you eat?
 - Do you think it is more important for you to eat healthy or tasty food?
- Do you try to eat your breakfast, lunch and dinner at a certain time every day?
- Do you have a snack every time you are hungry or do you wait for the lunch or dinner?

What is better for health?

- Do you agree with the saying: "Eat your breakfast, share your lunch with a friend and give your dinner to your enemy"? Why do people say so?
- What is healthy about not eating after 6 p.m?
 - Do you try to follow this rule?
 - Are you a success?
- Is obesity a great problem in where you live?
 - Why are there so many obese people in the US?
 - What are the most efficient ways to loose weight?
- Do you think diets are useful or not?
 - Have you ever tried to go on a diet?
 - What kind of diet was it?
 - Did it work?
- Is physical activity (jogging, going to a gym, swimming pool) an important part of a healthy life style?
- Can you tell a physically inactive person from someone who takes care of his/her physical condition?
 - What are the main differences?
- What is your attitude to smoking?
 - What is the influence of smoking on health?
 - What about passive smoking?
- Is it hard to give up smoking?
 - Do you know someone who gave up smoking?
 - What is the best way to give up smoking?
- What is a healthy dose of alcohol?
 - How mush beer, wine or vodka you can drink daily without any damage to your health?
 - What is the damage of alcohol abuse to health?
- How many hours of sleep do you need daily?
 - If you don't sleep enough, how do you feel and look?
- Do you try to go to bed and get up at certain hours every day?
 - What is good about it?
- Do you often find yourself under stress?
- What are the areas of your life where stress situations take place more often?
 - Work?
 - Family?
 - Relationships with friends?
 - While commuting to work?
- How do you usually cope with stress?
- Is there any connection between the person's style of life and the duration of his life?
- What do you prefer, to eat everything you like, drink a lot, smoke, have no physical exercise and die at the age of 60 or lead a healthy life and live until 100?

THE ARTS

- Are you a good painter?

- Can you draw pictures well?
- Do you believe what art critics say?
- Do you consider yourself a good artist?
- Do you enjoy your art class at school?
- Do you like modern art?
- Do you like paintings?
- Do you like sketching?
- Do you like to visit art museums?
- Do you like wood carving?
- Do you prefer using water colors or oil paint?
- Do you think it is proper to call nude paintings art?
- Do you think music and dancing are forms of art?
- Do you think of cartoons and comics as art?
- Do you visit museums when you go to another city?
- Have you ever been to any famous art museums?
- Have you ever visited an art museum?
- What art form do you like best?
- What art museums have you visited?
 - Which did you like the best? Why?
 - Which did you like the least? Why?
- What famous painters do you know? What are they famous for?
- What is art?
- What is the longest time that you have spend on a painting?
- What is your favorite art web site?
- What would life be like without art?
- When was the last time you went to an art museum?
- Who are some famous artists in your country?
- Who is a famous potter in your country?
- Who is the most famous artist in your country? What kind of art does he do?
- Who is your favorite painter?
- Do you enjoy taking photographs?
- What things do you like to photograph?
- Do you consider photography an art form?
- Why do artist like to draw women's figures?
- Why do you enjoy art?
- Why is art important?
- Why do people become professional artists?
- Have you ever participated in any art competitions?
- Have you ever been jealous of someone else's artwork?
- Do you find Picasso's work astonishing or weird?
- Do you have a favorite painting?
 - If so, what is it?
 - Why do you like it?
- Do other people ever compliment your artwork?

- Do you have a sketchbook?
 - If so, how often do you use it?
 - What kind of sketches do you make?
- Do you feel proud after finishing a work of art?
- Do you think graffiti is art?

Do you agree with this statement? Graffiti is a form of art; a form of expressing one's mind.

- Do you like to doodle?
 - What kinds of doodles do you make?
 - Where and when do you doodle?
- Have you ever gone to an exhibition?
- Do you know any art galleries? Are there any in the place where you live?
- Were you interested in art when you were young?
- In your opinion, is design an important part of culture?
- Can you tell me the name of a fashion designer you know?
- Is design a great importance in your daily life?
- The famous artist and designer William Morris said that you should not have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful'. Discuss.
- Do you know any art gallery? Is there any in the place where you live?
- Were you interested in art some years ago? and now?
- Have you studied any pictorial movement?
- Has design a great importance in your daily life
- Is your work figurative or abstract?
- What is your medium of choice?
- What influences your work?
- If you could buy a great work of art, what would it be? (style, title, artist's name...)
- Do you think performance art should be considered art?
- What do you think of shock art?
- Have you ever seen performance art?
- Have you ever seen shock art?
- Does art imitate life?
- Are movies a form of art?