

北京市西城区 2016—2017 学年度第一学期期末试卷

九年级英语

2017.1

考生须知

1. 本试卷共 12 页, 满分 120 分, 考试时间 120 分钟。
2. 在试卷和答题卡上准确填写学校名称、姓名和学号。
3. 试题答案一律填涂或书写在答题卡上, 在试卷上作答无效。
4. 在答题卡上, 选择题用 2B 铅笔作答, 其他试题用黑色字迹签字笔作答。
5. 考试结束, 请将本试卷和答题卡一并交回。

听力理解(共 30 分)

一、听对话, 从下面各题所给的 A、B、C 三幅图片中选择与对话内容相符的图片。每段对话你将听两遍。(共 5 分, 每小题 1 分)

1.			
	A.	B.	C.
2.			
	A.	B.	C.
3.			
	A.	B.	C.
4.			
	A.	B.	C.
5.			
	A.	B.	C.

九年级期末 英语试卷 第 1 页(共 12 页)

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二、听对话,根据对话的内容,从下面各题所给的 A、B、C 三个选项中选择最佳选项。每段对话你将听两遍。(共 15 分,每小题 1.5 分)

请听一段对话,完成第 6 至第 7 小题。

6. What does the woman love?
A. Colorful leaves. B. Big trees. C. Delicious food.
7. What do they want to do?
A. Buy oranges. B. Draw pictures. C. Pick apples.

请听一段对话,完成第 8 至第 9 小题。

8. What does the man ask Sally to do?
A. Give Betty a call. B. Do Betty's work. C. Move Betty's desk.
9. What does Sally have to say when answering the phone?
A. Time. B. Weather. C. Names.

请听一段对话,完成第 10 至第 11 小题。

10. What is the woman especially thankful for this year?
A. Food. B. Her family. C. Her friends.
11. What does the woman like best about Thanksgiving?
A. Cooking with her mother.
B. Staying home with her family.
C. Going shopping with her friends.

请听一段对话,完成第 12 至第 13 小题。

12. Where did the man take a dinner train to?
A. Canada. B. Taiwan. C. New York.
13. Why does the man like to go on a train trip?
A. Because trains are convenient and fast.
B. Because train tickets are much cheaper.
C. Because he can have a good rest on trains.

请听一段对话,完成第 14 至第 15 小题。

14. What are the speakers preparing for?
A. A meeting.
B. An interview.
C. A speaking exam.
15. What is the topic card for?
A. Giving ideas. B. Making notes. C. Testing knowledge.

三、听独白,记录关键信息。本段独白你将听两遍。(共10分,每小题2分)

请根据所听到的独白内容和提示词语,将所缺的关键信息填写在答题卡的相应位置上。

Tips for Being Home Alone	
▶	Take a key with you everywhere you go. Keep it in a <u>16</u> place.
▶	Keep your <u>17</u> on and with you at all times.
▶	Do your <u>18</u> .
▶	<u>19</u> up after yourself. Don't leave a mess for your <u>20</u> .

知识运用(共25分)

四、单项填空(共10分,每小题1分)

从下面各题所给的A、B、C、D四个选项中,选择可以填入空白处的最佳选项。

21. — Look at the photo. Is that your mother?
— Yes. _____ looked young at that time.
A. She B. Her C. He D. His
22. — _____ you play puzzle games?
— Yes, I can.
A. Must B. Need C. Can D. Should
23. Our teachers often tell us _____ notes in class.
A. take B. taking C. took D. to take
24. — Ms. Lee, how can I improve my English?
— _____ this APP and it may help you.
A. Try B. Trying C. To try D. Tried
25. — _____ have you worked on this project?
— For a month.
A. How far B. How long C. How often D. How many
26. We still do exercise every morning, _____ it is very cold outside.
A. so B. or C. although D. because
27. — Did you go to the Disneyland in Shanghai?
— Yes. I _____ there last month. It's a very fantastic place.
A. go B. went C. have gone D. will go
28. If you watch the film, you _____ more about Chinese history and culture.
A. learnt B. learn C. will learn D. have learnt

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29. The 2022 Winter Olympics _____ in Beijing and towns in Hebei Province.
A. are held B. will be held C. hold D. will hold
30. The restaurant wants a waiter _____ can speak French.
A. where B. which C. what D. who

五、完形填空 (共 15 分, 每小题 1.5 分)

阅读下面的短文, 掌握其大意, 然后从短文后各题所给的 A、B、C、D 四个选项中, 选择最佳选项。

The Birthday

As I sat in the chair by the window and felt the warm June sunshine on my arm, I had to remind myself where I was. If it was not because of the few medical instruments around, it didn't really look like a 31 room. While looking at the carefully chosen wallpaper, I remembered back to that day, not so long before, when this adventure first began.

It was a cool October day. While leaving the school, my mother mentioned that she had gone to the doctor that day. "What for?" I asked, becoming nervous as I 32 through all the problems in my mind. I wondered what problems my mother could possibly have.

"Well..." She stopped and my worry 33. "I'm pregnant."

"You're what?"

"I am having a baby."

I was speechless. I couldn't believe this happened to my parents when I was already in junior high school. It hit me that I would have to 34 my mother, the mother who had been all my own for 14 years! I'd never wanted my mother to have another child after she had me. This was a selfish feeling, but when it came to my mom, I was unwilling to share even the smallest bit of her.

However, when I saw the joy in my parents' eyes, I could not help but feel excited and my joy showed on the outside. On the inside, though, I was trying to deal with my fear and anger.

My parents involved me in all the 35, from decorating the nursery to picking out names and deciding that I could be present for the baby's birth. Though pregnancy brought excitement, it was 36 to hear people keep talking about the baby. I feared that I would be pushed back when the baby came. Sometimes when I was alone, the 37 was overcome (超越) by all the fear and anger for what this child would take from me.

Sitting in the delivery room that June 17, knowing the baby would soon be here, I began to feel all my insecurities (不安全) surface. What was my life going to be like? Would it be one endless baby-sitting job? What would I have to give up? Most importantly, would I lose my mother? The time to think and worry was rapidly melting away (消散). The baby was coming.

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It was the most unbelievable experience of my life, being in the delivery room that day, for birth is truly a miracle(奇迹), full of happiness and expectation. When the doctor said that it was a girl, I cried. I had a baby sister, Emma.

All my fears and insecurities have passed now. I cannot explain how special it is to have a 38 person who wakes up with me and see her wave her little hand good-bye to me as I leave for school.


Now I realize there is plenty of love in my home for Emma. My fear and anger had been erased with the realization that she took away 39. Instead, she brought so much to my life. I never thought I could love a baby this much, and I would not 40 the joy I get from being her big sister for anything.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 31. A. museum | B. hotel | C. school | D. hospital |
| 32. A. looked | B. ran | C. read | D. got |
| 33. A. disappeared | B. reduced | C. increased | D. returned |
| 34. A. lose | B. share | C. support | D. love |
| 35. A. competitions | B. instructions | C. preparations | D. conditions |
| 36. A. enjoyable | B. hard | C. surprising | D. funny |
| 37. A. joy | B. hope | C. loneliness | D. sadness |
| 38. A. tiny | B. kind | C. sick | D. shy |
| 39. A. everything | B. something | C. anything | D. nothing |
| 40. A. keep | B. expect | C. ask | D. trade |

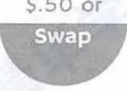

阅读理解(共 50 分)

六、阅读下列短文,根据短文内容,从短文后各题所给的 A、B、C、D 四个选项中,选择最佳选项。(共 30 分,每小题 2 分)

A

LINCOLN SCHOOL	
BOOKERY	
PTA's monthly "pop up" book store	
	<p>The purpose of bookery is to help students develop and keep a love of reading by giving them the chance to buy books for themselves, and allow them the fun of choosing books on their own.</p>

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	<p>Bring money or second-hand books from home to swap (交换) for another.</p> 
<p>* You can add money to your child's account (账户) by sending cash or by paying online: www.lincolnschoolevanston.ort/bookery/</p>	
<p>We are always looking for story books, science books and magazines. Drop off your second-hand children's books in the Bookery box located in the Forest Ave. Entrance.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DONATIONS (捐赠)</p> <p>* No board books, please.</p>	
<p>** Bookery happens at school, during school hours, once a month on a Friday. Each classroom has 15 minutes to look around and shop. This fantastic program is organized and operated by all parent volunteers.</p> <p>For more information or to volunteer: lincolnbookery@gmail.com</p> <p>Fridays: Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Dec. 2, Jan. 20, March 3, April 7, May 9</p>	

41. The purpose of the bookery is to help students _____.
- A. make more friends with others B. borrow books on their own
- C. develop and keep a love of reading D. buy books with their parents
42. What kind of books are not wanted for donations?
- A. Story books. B. Science books. C. Magazines. D. Board books.
43. When does the bookery happen?
- A. On Jan. 15. B. On March 9. C. On April 7. D. On May 13.
44. Who organize and operate the program?
- A. Students. B. Teachers. C. School officers. D. Parent volunteers.

B

Fifty Jobs in Fifty Weeks

Daniel was disappointed as he walked out of his 40th job interview. He couldn't believe he had failed 40 interviews. He just finished his university study and needed to get a job fast. He was almost broke (身无分文的). He decided that he would start a new project called "Living the Map". He wanted to get 50 jobs in 50 states in only 50 weeks.

Daniel's idea may sound crazy, but it is really clever. Daniel said that one of his goals was to get as much job experience as possible. He was still not sure what kind of job he really wanted. The best way to find out was to try out different types of jobs. So, he tried to get jobs that were related to

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each state's identity (特点). For example, Michigan is famous for having a lot of car factories, so during his week in Michigan, he worked as a mechanic. Wisconsin is known for its cheese, so he was a cheese maker there. In Vermont he made maple syrup, and in Maryland he was a crab chef.



Daniel not only had fun trying all kinds of interesting jobs, but he also made 60,000 dollars and became famous. He plans to publish a book about what he learned from his project. In the beginning, Daniel wanted to get as much job experience as possible, but instead became famous — or was he hoping to become famous from the beginning? You decide. Whatever he had in mind, it looks like there are many more jobs in his future.

45. How did Daniel feel after failing his 40th job interview?
A. Disappointed. B. Excited. C. Tired. D. Nervous.
46. Where did Daniel work as a cheese maker?
A. In Michigan. B. In Wisconsin. C. In Vermont. D. In Maryland.
47. In order to find out what he really wanted, Daniel _____.
A. made as much money as possible B. visited some beautiful places
C. finished his university study D. tried different kinds of jobs
48. What does Daniel plan to write a book about?
A. How he made maps of the world. B. How many people he met.
C. What he learned from his project. D. What his university was like.

C

Do you consider failure as an ending? Do you often feel after a failure that you are good for nothing? Then be careful, you are one of them who have bad relationship with failure. And this is the only reason why people often keep themselves away from their success. The power of failure is that it helps us to learn from our mistakes and missteps and we must consider a failure as an opportunity to grow rather than giving up.

Let's discover the reasons why successful people believe that opportunity lies in every failure.

Disappointment or failure shows that you are trying

The best way to gauge (衡量) your progress at something is to see how many times you failed. In case you haven't failed yet, chances are that you haven't tried hard yet.

Look at all successful men and women throughout our history, they all had one thing in common. That's to say they failed not once but several times before they achieved success. Let's take an example of Thomas Edison; he failed a lot of times to find right filament (灯丝) for his light

bulb. Henry Ford had a stronger relationship with failure, which inspired him to quote this unforgettable saying “failure is the opportunity to begin again, more intelligently”.

Achievement lies in looking at failure as an opportunity

Just like every successful person had one thing in common, similarly all unsuccessful persons throughout our history had one thing in common — their inability to use failure as an opportunity and a tool. If you feel your one failure is your ultimate (终极的) failure, and that feeling of sinking down is known as an ultimate failure, you are pushing yourself away from your expected success. Achievement is all about finding out what mistakes you made, what is the main cause of that failure, and how you are going to make up for it.

Success requires willpower, passion, hard work, intelligence, determination, but all of the above, success requires failure. Use your failure as an opportunity to learn, to become wiser and to reconsider your relationship with failure, the true key to success.

49. According to the writer, why do people keep themselves away from their success?

- A. Because they don't set long-term goals.
- B. Because they haven't got enough time.
- C. Because they can't deal with failure properly.
- D. Because they are disappointed in themselves.

50. Why does the writer take the example of Thomas Edison?

- A. To explain the reasons for failure.
- B. To prove the importance of failure.
- C. To take pride in Thomas Edison.
- D. To introduce the process of making a light bulb.

51. What can you learn from the passage?

- A. Failure can build up your confidence.
- B. Successful people seldom failed.
- C. Failure is more important than success.
- D. Successful people use failure as a tool.

D

Michael Morpurgo is one of Britain's best loved story makers whose book *War Horse* is taught in school. He made a speech at Book Trust Annual Lecture. When talking about tests, he said that too much testing in schools was taking the joy out of reading for children because it destroyed their confidence and resulted in feelings of shame and disappointment.

Mr. Morpurgo said testing was “supposed to encourage” all children, whether they passed or

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not, but this was not the case. "When you fail, it brings a sense of worthlessness. It separates you from those who have passed, rocks confidence, and destroys hopes and dreams." For children who pass, they can have the opportunity to receive the great cultural and material benefits of our society through developing an enjoyment of reading. But for children who fail, they are made to feel that the world of books, stories and ideas is not for them, and they are not clever enough to join that world. It is not the world they belong to, and it is shut off from them forever.

As the president of Book Trust, Mr. Morpurgo also criticized schools for taking the wonder of stories and playfulness of language. Schools have been teaching reading by turning stories into a series of comprehension and grammar tests, because they insist that measurable (可量化的) outcomes and results are the be-all and end-all of the education process. But blaming (责备) governments or schools is **passing the buck** – it is a society as a whole that is responsible for whether its children succeed or fail in education, and everyone should make an effort to ensure that reading itself is a pleasant experience for all children.

Mr. Morpurgo, who was a primary teacher before becoming a writer, wants to see a "story time" introduced in every primary school, when stories are read aloud, at the end of each day. His Book Trust lecture called on schools and the government to keep libraries open, for parents to read to their children every night, etc. "Story time" would be a special time with no testing or teaching. "Let the children go home dreaming of the story, reliving it, wondering... All the rest will come later. Once the seed is sown, the fire is lit, children will want to learn. So give them the love of story first; the rest will follow."

Diana Gerald, the co-worker of Book Trust, said: "Reading isn't a tick-list of books that need to have been read; nor is it just a skill to be learned then put aside. The ability of reading and writing can, and should be tested; reading for pleasure needs to be valued and seen more like exercise – do it as regularly as you can, make it fun and read together whenever possible for maximum benefits."

52. What does the expression "**passing the buck**" in Paragraph 3 probably mean?

- A. Valuable.
- B. Irresponsible.
- C. Unnecessary.
- D. Harmful.

53. According to the passage, what should children do at their "story time" ?

- A. Enjoy reading.
- B. Prepare for tests.
- C. Practise writing stories.
- D. Tick their book lists.

54. Which of the following is Mr. Morpurgo's suggestion?
- A. Tests should be canceled in schools.
 - B. Children should join the Book Trust.
 - C. Reading for pleasure should be encouraged.
 - D. The government should build more libraries.
55. Which of the following statements is TRUE?
- A. Mr. Morpurgo hopes to become a primary teacher.
 - B. Children who are tested can't get the joy from reading.
 - C. Mr. Morpurgo wants his book *War Horse* to be read often in schools.
 - D. Children who fail in tests probably won't explore the wonder of stories.

七、阅读短文,根据短文内容,从短文后的五个选项中选出能填入空白处的最佳选项。每个选项只能用一次。(共10分,每小题2分)

Ramen noodles are yellow noodles that originally (源自于) came from China. They became a popular street food in Japan in the early 1900s. 56. At that time, Japan did not have much food at all. Ramen was cheap and good, so more and more people began eating it.



In the 1950s, Momofuku Ando, the man who started the Nissin food company in Japan, had an idea. 57. People could pour hot water over these noodles, wait a few minutes, and then eat them. It would be instant (即食) ramen. It was not easy, but finally Ando came up with a way to make instant ramen. Japanese people loved it! Soon other companies were copying Ando's idea. 58.

Today, people all around the world enjoy ramen. In fact, people eat about 40 billion bowls of ramen every year!

But the story of ramen does not end there. 59. In these restaurants, all kinds of meats and vegetables are being added to ramen. And people are choosing noodle bars over sushi bars for a nice dinner out these days.

So whether you want traditional, quick, or fancy (精美的) ramen, you can find it. 60. You won't miss it!

- A. He wanted to make dried ramen noodles
- B. Ramen is now even served in many good restaurants
- C. Just look on the street, in a store, or in a restaurant near you
- D. Not long after that, instant ramen spread to the other countries
- E. Then, after World War II, ramen became even more popular in Japan

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八、阅读短文,根据短文内容回答问题。(共10分,每小题2分)

Warren Buffett is one of the richest people in the world. Mike Flint was Buffett's pilot for ten years. During a trip, Buffett said to Flint, "You must have dreams greater than flying me around to where I need to go." The pilot said he did have bigger dreams. And then Buffett took him through a three-step process for prioritizing (优化), to decide which things are the most important and what to start with.

First, Buffett asked Flint to write down a list of twenty-five career goals. Flint took some time and wrote them down. Second, Buffett asked Flint to do some soul-searching and circle the five highest-priority goals on the list. Again, Flint took some time, made his way through the list and eventually decided on his five most important goals.

At this point, Buffett asked, "but what about these other 20 things on your list that you didn't circle? What is your plan for completing those?" Flint replied confidently, "Well, the five highest-priority goals are the most important but the other twenty come in at a close second. So I'll work on those twenty as well as I'm getting through my five highest-priority goals." To Flint's surprise, Buffett said, "No. You've got it wrong. The third step is to take a good hard look at the 20 goals. You should avoid them at all costs. They eat away time and energy, taking your eye from the goals that matter more."

It is a simple process but not always an easy one. We are in a world where there's more competition for your focus (专注) than ever before. We have to guard it with our life. Without focus, without staying true to our priorities, we will not get done other things we try to fit in and get done what's most important to ourselves.

Every behavior has a cost. But time and energy are limited. Successful people prioritize their most important goals and avoid things that take up time, energy and space that could be put toward better behavior or more important tasks.

Once you've picked a goal, work towards it while ignoring (忽视) the things that will compete for your attention.

61. Did Flint work for Buffett as a pilot?
62. How many steps did Buffett take Flint through?
63. What did Buffett ask Flint to do first?
64. What did Buffett advise Flint to do with the other 20 goals?
65. Why can prioritizing goals help people to achieve success?

书面表达(共15分)

九、文段表达(15分)

66. 从下面两个题目中任选一题,根据中文和英文提示,完成一篇不少于50词的文段写作。

文中已给出内容不计入总词数。所给提示词语仅供选用。请不要写出你的校名和姓名。

题目①

假如你是李华,你想邀请外教 Sam 参加你家的除夕聚会,请你写一封邮件告诉他聚会的时间、地点,聚会上准备做些什么,以及他需要做哪些准备。

提示词语: decorate, enjoy dinner, CCTV New Year's Gala, fireworks, wish

提示问题: 1. When and where will you have your family party?

2. What will you do at the family party?

3. What do you advise him to prepare for the party?

Dear Sam,

How is it going?

I'm writing to invite you to my family party on Spring Festival Eve. _____

I'm looking forward to your early reply.

Yours,

Li Hua

题目②

现在,某英文报纸以“你最喜欢的运动”为话题征文,请你投稿。介绍一项你最喜欢的运动,谈一谈你是怎么喜欢上它的,以及你为什么喜欢这项运动。

提示词语: tiring, keep fit, benefit, shape, relax

提示问题: 1. What is your favorite sport?

2. How did you develop your love for the sport?

3. Why do you like it?

My Favorite Sport

Sport is an important part of my daily life. _____

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北京市西城区 2016—2017 学年度第一学期期末试卷

九年级英语参考答案及评分标准 2017.1

听力理解

一、听对话,选图。

1. A 2. B 3. B 4. C 5. C

二、听对话或独白,选择答案。

6. A 7. C 8. B 9. C 10. B

11. B 12. C 13. A 14. C 15. A

三、听独白,记录关键信息。

16. safe 17. phone 18. homework 19. Clean 20. parents

知识运用

四、单项填空

21. A 22. C 23. D 24. A 25. B

26. C 27. B 28. C 29. B 30. D

五、完形填空

31. D 32. B 33. C 34. B 35. C

36. B 37. A 38. A 39. D 40. D

阅读理解

六、阅读短文,选择最佳选项。

41. C 42. D 43. C 44. D 45. A

46. B 47. D 48. C 49. C 50. B

51. D 52. B 53. A 54. C 55. D

七、阅读短文,还原句子。

56. E 57. A 58. D 59. B 60. C

八、阅读短文,回答问题。

61. Yes, he did.

62. Three steps.

63. Write down a list of twenty-five career goals.

64. Avoid them at all costs.

65. Because time and energy are limited and we have to focus on the most important goals.

九、文段表达

66. One possible version:

题目①

Dear Sam,

How is it going?

I'm writing to invite you to my family party on Spring Festival Eve. The party will start at 5 o'clock in the afternoon in my house.

At the party, we will decorate the house together first. Traditionally, couplets will be put up on the doors and red paper-cutting will be pasted on windows. Then, my family will prepare a big dinner and enjoy it. Fish and dumplings will be served, as well as other delicious dishes. After dinner, we will watch CCTV New Year's Gala and set off fireworks.

If you can come, don't forget your gloves and scarf to keep warm when looking at fireworks outdoors. Besides, you'd better prepare some greetings in Chinese because it is the custom for Chinese people to express wishes to each other on Spring Festival Eve.

I'm looking forward to your early reply.

Yours,

Li Hua

题目②

My Favorite Sport

Sport is an important part of my daily life. I am interested in many sports, but running is my favorite. I have been in love with this exciting sport for over three years.

To be honest, I didn't like running at first because I thought it was boring and tiring. However, I was told that it was a great way to keep fit. So I had a try. It was really tiring, but I still kept running every day. As a result, I am all the more healthy. It turned out to be a good sport worth my time and effort.

I love running because it helps me lose weight and keep fit. Besides, running is a kind of training of my persistence and willpower. It shapes both my body and my mind. Since running is a sport that is of great benefit to me, I see no reason to give it up in the future.

书面表达评分标准:

第一档:(15~13分)

完全符合题目要求,观点正确,要点齐全。句式多样,词汇丰富。语言准确,语意连贯。

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表达清楚,具有逻辑性。

第二档:(12~9分)

基本符合题目要求,观点正确,要点齐全。语法结构和词汇基本满足文章需要。语言基本通顺,语意基本连贯,表达基本清楚。虽然有少量语言错误,但不影响整体理解。

第三档:(8~5分)

部分内容符合题目要求,要点不齐全。语法结构和词汇错误较多,语言不通顺,表达不够清楚,影响整体理解。

第四档:(4~0分)

与题目有关内容不多,只是简单拼凑提示词语,所写内容难以理解。

听力录音材料

1. W: What would you like to do this weekend?
M: I'd like to go fishing.
2. M: What will the weather be like tomorrow?
W: It will be rainy all day long.
3. W: Did you watch the basketball game last night?
M: Yes. It was exciting!
4. M: Have you been a volunteer before?
W: Yes. I worked as a volunteer in the museum.
5. M: I heard that you have a lot of beautiful stamps. May I have a look?
W: Sure. See. All of these are my treasure.
6. W: Hi, Mike. Let's walk around together.
M: Sure. What colorful leaves!
W: Do leaves change color in fall in your hometown?
M: Not really.
W: They do here. I love the colorful leaves in fall.
M: Me, too. I can see yellow, orange and red leaves.
W: They look so pretty.
M: Let's take some pictures.
W: Look at those apple trees. There are many apples on each one! We can pick a lot of them!
M: They look delicious! Can we pick some?
W: Yes, but we have to pay first.
M: No problem.
7. M: Hi, Sally. Are you busy today?
W: No, I'm not too busy. Why?
M: Can you sit at Betty's desk and answer the phone? We need someone to do her work today.
W: Where is Betty?

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- M: She's not here today. So can you answer the office phone?
W: OK. Sure. I can answer the office phone.
M: Thanks, Sally.
W: So what do I say?
M: Say the name of our company, and then your name.
W: OK. "Happy Hour Company, this is Sally."
M: That's good. Maybe you can ask, "How can I help you?"
W: Of course!
8. M: Hello! Happy Thanksgiving! May I talk to you for a minute?
W: Sure.
M: What are you thankful for this year?
W: That's a great question! I am thankful for many things, especially my family.
M: Yes. Many people are thankful for that.
W: I'm also thankful for good health.
M: Why? Have you been sick?
W: No. I am just happy that I have good health and I can enjoy Thanksgiving.
M: What do you like best about Thanksgiving?
W: I can stay home and spend time with my family.
M: What do you usually do on Thanksgiving Day?
W: My mother cooks a big turkey dinner with vegetables and pie.
M: Wow! That sounds great. Do you eat with your family?
W: Yes! My family eats together. We tell jokes and share funny stories.
M: That's wonderful.
9. M: Do you like trains, Susie?
W: They're OK. Why?
M: I was on a train trip to New York last week, but the trip was short. I was on a dinner train.
W: A dinner train? What's that?
M: You ride on a train and have a nice dinner.
W: That sounds fun!
M: Yes. The food was really good. Let's go on a trip sometime.
W: Sure. You mean a train trip?
M: Why not? Trains are very convenient and fast, too.
W: How fast?
M: Well, the high speed railway trains go 300 kilometers per hour.
W: Wow, that's fast!
M: And the scenery is beautiful sometimes. When I traveled in Taiwan, I could see mountains on one side of the train and the ocean on the other.
W: That does sound beautiful.

M: I took a train across Canada one time.

W: That would be a long trip!

M: It was. It took about four days. And sleeping on the train was really fun.

10. M: OK, Jane, let's do some practice for our speaking exam.

W: Great! I'm going to talk about fast-food restaurants and I guess you would choose animals.

M: Unfortunately, we don't get to choose our topic, Jane. The examiner has a set of topic cards and we have to talk about the one he or she chooses for us.

W: But what if I don't know anything about the topic? I won't be able to say anything! Tom, that's mean!

M: It's not a test of knowledge about the topic. The topic is just to give us something to talk about. We are being tested on how well we can communicate in English.

W: OK, fair enough. But what happens when we see the topic card? Can we make written notes?

M: No, but there are some ideas on the topic card which we can use and we have a couple of minutes to prepare.

W: Do I lose marks if I get the answers wrong?

M: No, Jane, there are no right or wrong answers- the examiner just wants to hear you speaking in English. Try to use expressions like: *In my opinion...*, *I believe...*, *On the other hand...*, *On the whole...*, and so on.

W: That helps!

11. Staying home alone, especially if it's a new experience, can be difficult. Maybe your parents work late a lot, or maybe you get a call from your mom on the bus ride home saying that she's going to be late back home. Whatever the reason, you'll be alone at home for a while. Don't worry; with a few steps, you'll be prepared to handle the situation by yourself.

Take a key with you everywhere you go. Keep it in a safe place, such as your wallet or a pocket in your schoolbag. You don't want to get locked out of the house on a day when your parents won't be back until late.

Keep your phone on and with you at all times. Whether you're at home or out of the house, you'll want to have your phone with you at all times.

Do your homework. Just because your parents aren't home doesn't mean you can skip out on doing your homework!

Clean up after yourself. If you're playing a board game, clean up the game pieces and put them back where you found them. If you eat a snack, clean up any mess you might have made. Leaving a mess for your parents to clean up when they get home is not good, and try to be responsible.