

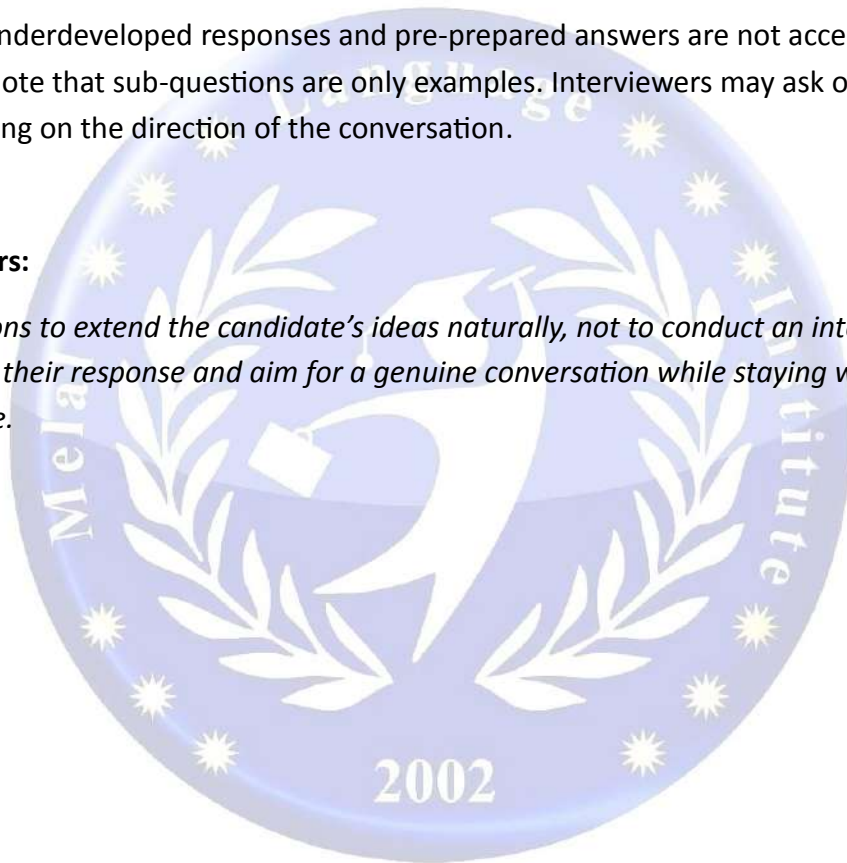
# Gold Advanced, CAE

## Principles:

- Candidates must provide extended answers that include both reasons and relevant examples.
- Short, underdeveloped responses and pre-prepared answers are not acceptable.
- Please note that sub-questions are only examples. Interviewers may ask other questions depending on the direction of the conversation.

## Note to Teachers:

*Use sub-questions to extend the candidate's ideas naturally, not to conduct an interview. Follow the direction of their response and aim for a genuine conversation while staying within the target language.*



## Unit 1

### 1. How much do you feel your city or hometown has shaped who you are?

Sub-questions:

- What emotions come to mind when you think of the place you grew up?
- If you had grown up somewhere else entirely, how different do you think you'd be?
- Does a city reflect its people or the other way around?

### 2. Do you think life in rural areas is becoming increasingly appealing in today's world?

Sub-questions:

- Would you describe rural life as "freer" or more "limiting"?
- Is there still a clear divide between urban and rural values?
- What do you think each side could learn from the other?

### 3. Would you ever give up the comfort of your home city to live abroad or somewhere remote?

Sub-questions:

- What would be the biggest challenge in adapting to a new city or culture?
- Is it harder to feel at home in a remote place or a foreign one?
- How much does your sense of "home" depend on people vs place?
- What kind of environment would bring out the best in you?

**4. If you could design your dream home from scratch, how close would it be to where you live now?**

Sub-questions:

- Would it be in a city, on the edge of one, or far from any urban space?
- What features would be non-negotiable for you?
- Is it more about aesthetics, practicality, or emotional connection?

**5. How important is it to develop a strong sense of direction in an unfamiliar city?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you rely on intuition or technology to navigate?
- Have you ever gotten completely lost in a city? What happened?
- Are some cities easier to navigate than others and why?
- What does a city's layout say about its history or culture?

**6. What's your personal relationship with the city you know best?**

Sub-questions:

- Which parts of the city feel most like "yours"?
- Are there places you've outgrown or grown into?
- Is there a corner of your city that tourists often overlook but you'd recommend?
- What emotions do certain streets or landmarks trigger for you?

**7. In your view, what makes a city not just functional, but truly livable?**

Sub-questions:

- Should cities prioritize speed and efficiency or atmosphere and “walkability”?
- Do you think most cities are designed with people in mind?
- What role does public space play in city life?
- What kind of design makes you feel welcome or excluded?

**8. Do you believe cities can ever be truly sustainable, or is that a contradiction in itself?**

Sub-questions:

- What green features should every modern city include?
- How much are individual citizens responsible for environmental choices in cities?
- Do you think cities are making real progress, or just rebranding themselves?
- Have you noticed any “greenwashing” where you live?

**9. As an urban resident, do you ever feel the need to escape the city and reconnect with nature?**

Sub-questions:

- How do you usually satisfy that need, if at all?
- Do you think this impulse is becoming more common and why?
- Is nature something we need to escape to, or something we should integrate into urban life?

**10. Should graffiti be treated as a criminal act or recognized as a form of vandalism?**

Sub-questions:

- Can graffiti contribute to a city's character or identity?
- Have you seen examples where graffiti clearly added value to a space?
- Where should we draw the line between expression and damage?

**11. If you had to rebrand your city to attract more visitors or residents, how would you do it?**

Sub-questions:

- What's the strongest aspect of your city's identity now?
- What's missing from its image or reputation?
- Would you focus on its history, culture, innovation or something else entirely?
- Are there misconceptions about your city you'd want to change?

**12. If you were given unlimited resources to design a new city from the ground up, what would it look like?**

Sub-questions:

- What would you prioritize sustainability, diversity, accessibility?
- How would you balance beauty with function?
- What mistakes from existing cities would you try to avoid?
- Would you model it after any city that already exists?

**13. What's your opinion on moving to the suburbs does it offer a better quality of life or just a different kind of compromise?**

Sub-questions:

- Are people leaving cities by choice, or out of necessity?
- What do you gain and what do you lose by moving to the suburbs?
- Is the dream of a house in the suburbs still relevant?

**14. How much does the quality of public transport affect a city's livability and social equality?**

Sub-questions:

- What transport methods dominate where you live, and how effective are they?
- Would you say your city is accessible to everyone, regardless of income or ability?
- How does commuting affect your quality of life?
- Should private vehicles be discouraged in city centers?

**15. How has tourism shaped your city for better or worse?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you think your city caters more to outsiders than to locals?
- Are tourist zones still authentic, or have they become staged?
- What would you want visitors to really understand about your city?
- Does tourism fuel development or drive displacement?



## Unit 2

### 1. Can you recall your earliest experience with the internet and how it felt at the time?

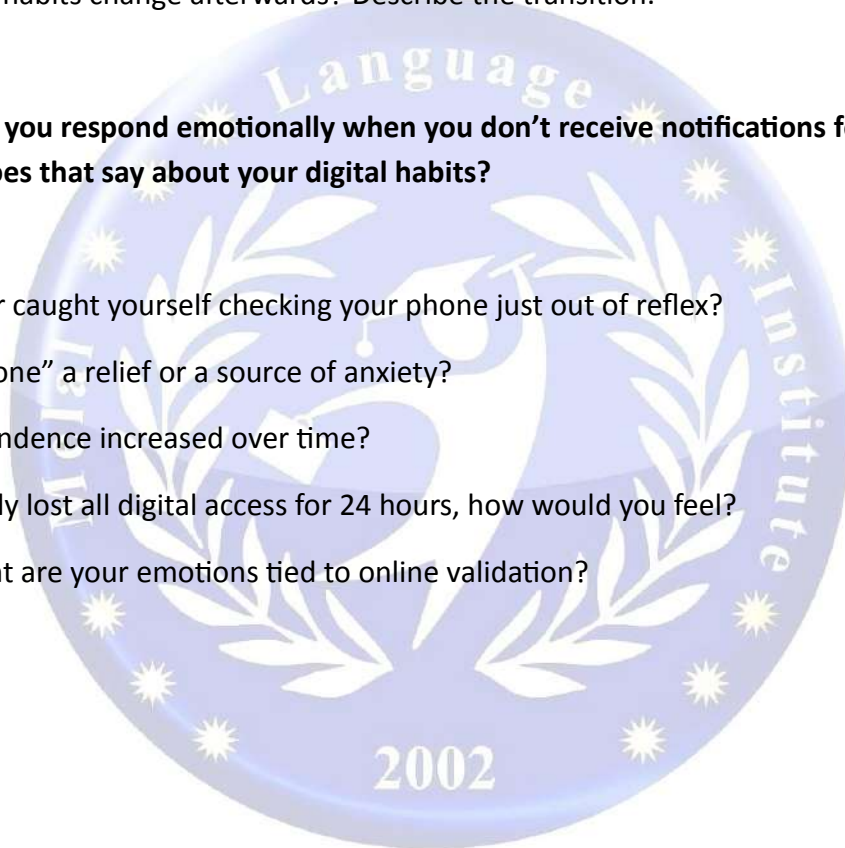
Sub-questions:

- What platform or tool were you using back then?
- What surprised or impressed you most about it?
- How did your habits change afterwards? Describe the transition.

### 2. How do you respond emotionally when you don't receive notifications for a while and what does that say about your digital habits?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever caught yourself checking your phone just out of reflex?
- Is a “quiet phone” a relief or a source of anxiety?
- Has this dependence increased over time?
- If you suddenly lost all digital access for 24 hours, how would you feel?
- To what extent are your emotions tied to online validation?



### **3. How different is your online persona from who you are in real life?**

Sub-questions:

- Is your online persona more filtered, exaggerated or more “you” than real life?
- Do you think people consciously curate their identity or it just happens?
- Have you ever posted something that didn’t reflect your actual thoughts?
- Has anyone ever misunderstood you online?
- Would your closest friends describe your digital self the same way you would?

### **4. In your lifetime, how have the ways people communicate changed and how has that affected you personally?**

Sub-questions:

- What do you miss about older forms of communication?
- Do you think we talk more or less than before?
- Is anything truly “private” anymore?
- Are conversations shorter but more frequent or just less meaningful?
- How has this shift affected relationships?

### **5. Do you think online communication has made people more anxious in social situations or helped them manage their anxiety?**

Sub-questions:

- Does constant messaging reduce face-to-face confidence?
- Have you ever felt more comfortable expressing yourself online than in person?
- Does social media make people more self-conscious?
- What role does “comparison culture” play in social anxiety?
- Would you say online platforms have helped or harmed your confidence?



**6. Can you describe a phase when you were especially obsessed with an app, game, or platform?**

Sub-questions:

- How much time were you spending on it daily?
- Was it more about connection, distraction, or routine?
- What finally broke the habit, if it did?
- Looking back, do you feel that time was wasted or not at all?

**7. In your opinion, what are the most dangerous health consequences of our growing dependence on technology?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you personally noticed any physical changes sleep, posture, eyesight?
- How do you manage screen time, if at all?
- Do you think we're underestimating the long-term impact of digital habits?
- Have doctors and health professionals caught up with the issue?
- What would be a realistic way to cut down digital overuse?

**8. Is the internet a safe haven for introverts or does it simply reinforce isolation?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you know anyone who interacts more online than in person?
- Does online connection provide genuine intimacy?
- Is it easier to misinterpret someone's tone online?
- What's lost when you remove body language and tone of voice?
- Should introverts be encouraged to "connect" more offline?

### **9. How normal or beneficial is it to talk to yourself out loud?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you ever do it? When and why?
- Can it help with processing thoughts or regulating emotions?
- Have you ever caught someone doing it and judged them or understood it?
- Is it a sign of creativity, stress, or something else entirely?
- Could this behavior become more normalized in a digital world?

### **10. To what extent do emojis enhance or distort communication in online conversations?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever had a message misunderstood because of an emoji?
- Are they a new form of language, or just visual shortcuts?
- How does age or culture affect emoji use?
- What's the most easily misread emoji you know?

### **11. Have you ever experienced serious confusion or conflict because of something said or unsaid online?**

Sub-questions:

- What caused the misunderstanding?
- Was it tone, timing, or word choice?
- Did you resolve it, or did it escalate?
- How would it have gone differently face to face?
- What did you learn from it about digital communication?

**12. Do you ever deliberately disconnect and if so, what happens to your mind when you do?**

Sub-questions:

- How often do you go a full day without screens or notifications?
- Is silence something you crave or fear?
- What's the longest you've gone offline, and how did it feel?
- Is digital detox just a trendy phrase, or a real need?



## Unit 3

### **1. Do you think young people truly make the most of their youth or do we only appreciate it when it's gone?**

Sub-questions:

- What advice would you give to your younger self, if any?
- Do you believe youth is wasted on the young? Why or why not?
- Is it even possible to value youth while you're still in it?
- What did you once take for granted that you now miss?
- Should education systems teach people how to age well?

### **2. Why do you think so many people are afraid of getting older and is that fear rational?**

Sub-questions:

- Is the fear more physical, social, or emotional?
- How does culture shape our perception of aging?
- Do you think aging affects men and women differently in society?
- Have you seen people embrace aging in inspiring ways?
- Would you rather age naturally, or try to preserve your youth artificially?

**3. If you had to remain one age for the rest of your life, which age would you choose and why?**

Sub-questions:

- What made that age feel ideal?
- Would your choice be based on health, freedom, mindset, or something else?
- Do you think staying one age would eventually become a burden?
- How would relationships change if no one aged?

**4. How do you think growing up online has shaped the way younger generations express themselves?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you think teenagers today overshare, or are they simply more open?
- How has digital exposure impacted self-image in youth?
- Have you ever come across old online posts you now regret?
- Should children be taught to manage their digital identity early on?
- Are young people more vulnerable or more empowered online?

**5. In what ways do you think teenagers today are different from those twenty or thirty years ago?**

Sub-questions:

- Are today's teens more self-aware or more self-absorbed?
- How has exposure to information changed adolescence?
- Has digital access made growing up easier or more complicated?
- Do teenagers today face more pressure than in previous generations?
- Are they more emotionally mature, or less?

## **6. Do you think the meaning of adulthood has changed in recent decades?**

Sub-questions:

- What used to define adulthood, and what defines it now?
- Is it about age or responsibility?
- Why are people postponing traditional milestones like marriage or owning property?
- At what age do you think people truly “grow up”?
- Does adulthood ever truly begin or is it just a myth?

## **7. As life expectancy increases, do you think we’re prepared mentally, socially, and economically to live longer lives?**

Sub-questions:

- What are the biggest challenges of longer life spans?
- How should retirement change if people live to 90+?
- Are people really staying “young” longer, or just surviving longer?
- Should we be excited or concerned about anti-aging technologies?
- What does a “good old age” look like to you?

## **8. Do you think the aging process changes who we are or does it just reveal who we’ve always been?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you noticed your own mindset changing as you get older?
- Is there such a thing as a “young soul” or an “old soul”?
- Does wisdom really come with age or experience?
- What’s one behavior you hope never to lose?



**9. Should there be upper age limits for certain responsibilities just like there are lower limits for youth?**

Sub-questions:

- Should there be a maximum age for driving, voting, or holding public office?
- Is this fair, or ageist?
- How should we assess ability by age, or by performance?
- Have you ever seen someone clearly “overage” for their role?
- What risks are society ignoring when it comes to cognitive decline?

**10. What are the most common age-related stereotypes you’ve encountered and how true are they?**

Sub-questions:

- Do people still associate youth with recklessness and age with wisdom?
- Have you ever been underestimated or judged based on your age?
- Which generation do you think is most misunderstood?
- Do these stereotypes affect job opportunities or social inclusion?

**11. What do you think are the most important factors for aging well both mentally and physically?**

Sub-questions:

- Is it more about genetics, habits, or mindset?
- How much of aging is preventable, in your opinion?
- Does the country or culture you live in influence how you age?
- Should we focus more on prevention or on acceptance?
- What would “aging gracefully” mean for you personally?

**12. How can older generations better adapt to or be included in today's tech-driven world?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever helped someone older use digital tools?
- What barriers do they face psychological or practical?
- Should tech companies do more to accommodate older users?

**13. If science found a way to stop aging completely, would you take it?**

Sub-questions:

- What would be the emotional and ethical consequences?
- Would society benefit from people never dying?
- Could immortality devalue life itself?



## Unit 4

### **1. In your view, what defines adulthood and is it more than just a number?**

Sub-questions:

- Was there a specific moment when you felt you'd grown up?
- Is it about responsibility, independence, or something else entirely?
- Do we become adults gradually, or all at once?
- Can someone be legally an adult but still emotionally immature?

### **2. Do you think people mature in predictable ways or does everyone take a different path?**

Sub-questions:

- How do major life events (e.g., parenting, living alone, loss) accelerate maturity?
- Can professional success make someone grow up or the opposite?
- What kind of environment nurtures personal growth best?
- Have you ever surprised yourself by how mature (or immature) your reaction was?

### **3. Do you believe that personal growth only happens through hardship or can it also come from positive experiences?**

Sub-questions:

- Has a painful experience ever helped you become a better version of yourself?
- Can comfort and routine limit development?
- How do we know whether pain is worth enduring?
- Is it possible to grow without suffering at all?
- Why do some people grow from failure while others collapse under it?

#### **4. To what extent should we adjust our personal goals to fit societal expectations?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever made a choice that felt right for you but wrong in others' eyes?
- Is rebellion ever necessary for real progress?
- What happens when personal ambition clashes with collective values?
- Can society be wrong about what success looks like?
- Should we strive to "fit in" or "stand out"?

#### **5. Have you ever changed who you were in order to be accepted and was it worth it?**

Sub-questions:

- How much of our identity is shaped by others' expectations?
- Can you be fully authentic and still fit in?
- Is it dishonest to adapt to your surroundings or just practical?
- When is compromise admirable, and when is it weakness?
- Have you ever regretted conforming?

#### **6. What do you think it means to be a "good citizen" in today's world?**

Sub-questions:

- Is it about obeying the law, or going beyond it?
- What small daily actions show civic responsibility?
- Can someone be a good citizen but a bad person or the other way around?
- Do you think your generation is civic-minded?
- Should schools teach civic responsibility more directly?

## **7. What responsibilities do we have online that are just as important as in real life?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever witnessed harmful behavior online and done nothing? Why?
- Should people be held legally accountable for what they say or do online?
- What makes someone a responsible digital citizen?
- Do people behave more irresponsibly online because they feel anonymous?
- Have you ever regretted something you posted or didn't post?

## **8. Who are the figures you consider truly inspirational and what sets them apart?**

Sub-questions:

- Is it their success, their values, or their resilience?
- Do they reflect the kind of person you hope to become?
- Do we expect too much from public figures as role models?
- Can flawed people still be inspiring?
- Have you ever changed your behavior because of someone else's example?

## **9. Do you think most people live double lives one for society and one for themselves?**

Sub-questions:

- How much of your personality is filtered in public or online?
- Are we becoming more authentic or more performative as a society?
- Does social media push us to exaggerate our better sides?
- Is it possible to be 100% "real" in a professional or public space?
- What risks come with being too open or too guarded?

**10. Can you think of a situation where you would put society's needs ahead of your own?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever done something inconvenient or difficult just because it felt like the right thing to do?
- What would you be willing to give up for the benefit of others?
- Do we all owe something to the world we live in?
- Are we naturally selfish, or socially conditioned to care?

**11. What does it mean to be a “good parent” in the modern world?**

Sub-questions:

- Has the role of parenting changed in the digital age?
- Should parenting styles be judged or are they purely personal?
- How do we prepare the next generation to be ethical citizens and netizens?
- Is it possible to be too involved as a parent?
- What's one thing every child deserves, regardless of culture?

**12. How do we know if someone is ready to make important life decisions like voting, marriage, or career paths?**

Sub-questions:

- Does age matter, or is maturity something else entirely?
- Have you ever made a decision too soon or waited too long?
- Are people mature enough to choose their own future at 18?
- Should some decisions be delayed until later in life?
- What's a sign that someone is truly ready for a major commitment?



### **13. Do you feel more connected to your country or to the world as a whole?**

Sub-questions:

- Should we prioritize national identity or global responsibility?
- How do international issues affect your daily life?
- Can someone be a “citizen of the world” in a meaningful way?
- Do global crises (e.g. climate change, pandemics) demand a new form of global citizenship?
- Have you ever felt loyalty split between local and global interests?



## Unit 5

### 1. Why do people often believe they are just one change away from happiness?

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever thought, “I’ll be happy when...”? Did it work?
- Is this a sign of ambition or emotional dissatisfaction?
- Does modern society encourage this mindset?
- Can contentment and ambition coexist?
- Is there a moment in life where we need to stop chasing?

### 2. Do you think true happiness depends on reaching perfection or letting go of it?

Sub-questions:

- Can you recall a time when imperfection led to joy?
- Does social media worsen our obsession with perfection?
- What do we gain by embracing flaws?
- Are some cultures more tolerant of imperfection?
- Could perfection actually be boring?

### 3. Why is it increasingly difficult to distinguish between what we truly need and what we merely want?

Sub-questions:

- Has advertising blurred the line between the two?
- Can wanting less actually make you happier?
- Have you ever wanted something badly and regretted it once you, had it?
- Should schools or families teach the difference more actively?

**4. In your opinion, does owning more lead to a better quality of life or just more pressure?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever been happier after giving something up rather than gaining it?
- Can wealth complicate happiness?
- Does minimalism appeal to you? Why or why not?
- What's something people spend money on that rarely brings happiness?
- Have your views on materialism changed over time?

**5. What's your opinion of the way charities operate in today's world?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you think charities are always effective or sometimes mismanaged?
- Have you ever supported a cause personally?
- Should charity work be a moral duty or a personal choice?
- Is it fair to say some people donate to feel good, not to do good?
- How can we assess whether a cause is truly impactful?

**6. Do you believe society puts too much emphasis on being productive?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever felt guilty for resting and why?
- Is time spent doing "nothing" ever truly wasted?
- Can constant productivity lead to burnout or emotional detachment?
- Should rest be part of our daily responsibilities?
- Would you prefer a slower but more fulfilling life?

## **7. How does commuting impact our well-being and is it ever worth the trade-off?**

Sub-questions:

- How much time is too much to spend getting to work?
- Can commuting ever be seen as useful downtime?
- Would remote work lead to more happiness for most people?
- Have you ever had a commute that made you reconsider your lifestyle?
- Should people be paid more if their job requires long commutes?

## **8. Is it better to pursue what you love or what pays the bills?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you think of someone who followed their passion and succeeded?
- Have you ever had to choose between passion and practicality?
- Should passion projects be financially sustainable or separate from income?
- What risks come with prioritizing passion?
- Is work supposed to bring fulfillment or just function?

## **9. What have you learned from early work experiences paid or unpaid about happiness at work?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever done unpaid work that felt meaningful?
- Is unpaid labor fair in today's economy?
- How do early jobs affect our future career expectations?
- Would you take a lower-paying job if it brought you more peace of mind?

**10. What do you imagine life would be like if you gave up all material possessions and lived like a monk?**

Sub-questions:

- Could you ever find joy in such simplicity?
- What emotional or mental benefits would that life offer?
- What would be the hardest part to give up?
- Is there a part of you that craves silence and stillness?
- Does modern society allow space for that kind of peace?

**11. What are the essential elements that make a life truly satisfying?**

Sub-questions:

- Is happiness more internal or external?
- What about meaning is it more important than comfort?
- Has your personal formula for happiness changed over the years?

**12. How do you balance the need for instant happiness with the pursuit of long-term fulfillment?**

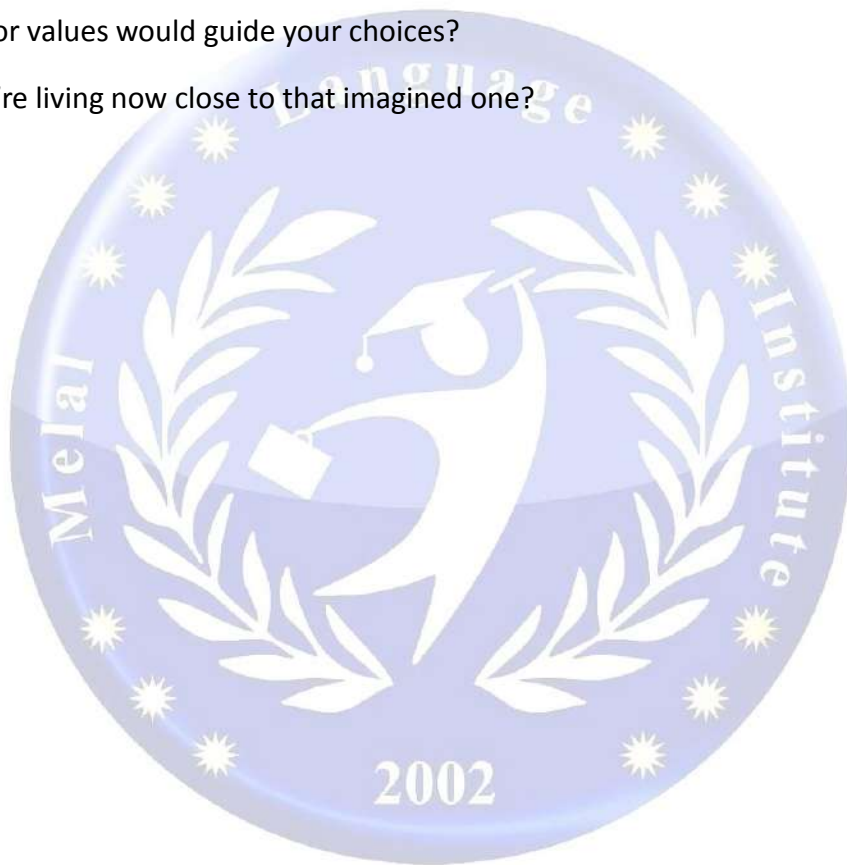
Sub-questions:

- Have you ever chosen short-term pleasure over long-term success?
- Is it always wrong to indulge yourself impulsively?
- What's a "quick fix" you often rely on to feel better?
- How do you personally define fulfillment?
- Can planning too much actually reduce happiness?

**13. If you had to start over and build a life designed entirely for happiness, what would you keep, what would you change?**

Sub-questions:

- Where would you live? Who would be part of that life?
- What role would work play if any?
- Would your current goals stay the same?
- What beliefs or values would guide your choices?
- Is the life you're living now close to that imagined one?





## Unit 6

### **1. Why do people often say that life used to be better? Do you believe that's true or just romanticizing the past?**

Sub-questions:

- What do you think people actually miss values, simplicity, or control?
- Are older generations guilty of exaggerating their past?
- Is nostalgia sometimes a form of denial?
- What aspects of modern life would past generations envy?
- How much of our memory of "better times" is accurate?

### **2. If every time we recall a memory, we change it, to what extent can we trust our personal history?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you think of a memory that turned out to be false or distorted?
- How does emotion interfere with memory?
- Could memory manipulation ever be useful or even dangerous?
- What role does storytelling play in shaping memory?
- Are there any moments from your childhood you suspect never really happened the way you remember?

### **3. In your view, how much does a nation's history define its identity today?**

Sub-questions:

- Can a country ever break free from its historical past?
- Do all countries use history to create national pride or control?
- How important is it for younger generations to know their national history?
- Should history books present a neutral account or a proud one?
- Can historical guilt be inherited?

### **4. Do you think it's truly possible for a nation to rebrand itself in the eyes of the world?**

Sub-questions:

- What strategies could a country use to reshape its image?
- Can cultural events (e.g. hosting the Olympics) erase bad reputation?
- Are there examples of nations that have successfully done this?
- How much should governments invest in national image?
- Can art or cinema play a role in rebranding?

### **5. What are the real reasons for preserving ruins, monuments, and historical artifacts?**

Sub-questions:

- Is it always worth the financial cost?
- Could digital reconstructions ever replace physical preservation?
- Do you feel emotionally attached to any historical place?
- Would you prioritize preserving cultural memory over investing in innovation?

**6. If you could redesign how governments allocate money for history and culture, what would your priorities be?**

Sub-questions:

- Should funding go more toward education or preservation?
- Are museums outdated or more essential than ever?
- Would you prioritize rural heritage or urban landmarks?
- Should museums be free for citizens?

**7. When we try to save endangered animals, are we protecting nature or interrupting its course?**

Sub-questions:

- Should nature be left to evolve without human interference?
- Is extinction always tragic or sometimes natural?
- Do we prioritize cute animals over ecologically crucial ones?

**8. Are modern museums still places of education or are they turning into tourist attractions?**

Sub-questions:

- How often do you visit museums and why?
- Are interactive exhibitions better than traditional ones?
- Should museums adapt to modern media, or stay traditional?
- Can history survive without physical spaces?
- Should museums tell objective stories or emotional ones?

**9. In recent years, many countries have removed monuments due to political or ethical concerns. What's your opinion on this trend?**

Sub-questions:

- Should we judge historical figures by today's standards?
- Is removing statues an act of progress or erasure?
- Can a monument still be useful if it represents something controversial?
- What alternatives could be used to present difficult history?
- Who should decide what stays and what goes?

**10. How do you maintain a sense of national or cultural identity in an increasingly globalized society?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever felt your identity was misunderstood abroad?
- Do you think younger generations are losing touch with their roots?
- Can someone form multiple cultural identities?
- Does language still play a central role in national identity?
- Do you think global culture is becoming too homogenized?

**11. Do you think we often see the past through a romantic lens, rather than acknowledging its complexity?**

Sub-questions:

- Are we more selective about what we remember than we admit?
- Can romanticizing the past stop us from progressing?
- Do films and books distort history or bring it to life?
- What myths about your country's past do people still believe?
- How should history be taught to encourage critical thinking?

**12. When historical buildings are destroyed, should we restore them as they were or build something entirely new?**

Sub-questions:

- Can replicas ever capture the same meaning as the original?
- Should modern architecture take inspiration from the past?
- How does architecture reflect memory?

**13. As individuals forget things with age, do societies also forget their collective past?**

Sub-questions:

- Are we at risk of losing important historical knowledge?
- Does digital archiving prevent or encourage forgetting?
- Should every generation reinterpret history for itself?
- Are collective memories shaped more by media than facts?
- Can forgetting be healthy or even necessary?

**14. How personally connected do you feel to your country's history?**

Sub-questions:

- Are there moments in national history that move you emotionally?
- Do you feel a sense of responsibility to preserve cultural memory?
- Has your opinion of your country's history changed with age?
- Would you ever work in a field related to history or preservation?
- What historical period would you most like to experience and why?

## Unit 7

### 1. Can you think of something you bought that you really shouldn't have?

Sub-questions:

- What made you buy it at the time?
- Was it the product itself or the marketing that convinced you?
- If you'd had a second opinion, would it have helped?
- How did you feel afterward?

### 2. What makes a product truly worth buying?

Sub-questions:

- Do you judge by quality, longevity, or price?
- Can expensive always be equated with better?
- Would you rather buy one good item or five cheap ones?

### 3. Do you believe "less is more" in today's consumer culture?

Sub-questions:

- How do you define minimalism in practice?
- Have you ever tried a shopping detox or "low-buy" year?
- Why is it so difficult to consume less?

### 4. Could you ever work in sales or marketing?

Sub-questions:

- Do you think sales is an ethical profession?
- Can selling ever be "just a job," or is it personal persuasion?
- What kind of product would you feel comfortable promoting?



**5. Have advertising campaigns ever influenced you without you realizing it?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you name a campaign that stuck in your mind for years?
- What makes some ads more manipulative than others?
- How do you feel about targeted ads based on online behavior?

**6. Is fast fashion a problem we ignore on purpose?**

Sub-questions:

- Why do so many people keep buying it despite knowing the impact?
- Would you still buy it if you saw how it's made?
- Should governments intervene more strongly?

**7. Some companies refuse to offer sales. Do you support that approach?**

Sub-questions:

- What do you think their reasoning is?
- Do you think it helps consumers be more intentional?
- Would you be more or less loyal to such a brand?

**8. Is it possible to be an ethical consumer in a capitalist system?**

Sub-questions:

- What compromises are you willing to make when shopping?
- Are green labels and sustainable claims always trustworthy?
- Should ethics be the brand's job or the buyers?

### **9. If companies hadn't prioritized profit over sustainability, where would we be now?**

Sub-questions:

- Could the climate crisis have been reduced through responsible production?
- Do you think we might have avoided certain global trends?
- What consumer habits might have been different?

### **10. How can fashion reflect both personal identity and social values?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you dress for yourself, or for others honestly?
- How much of your style is trend-based vs timeless?
- Can fashion ever be truly neutral?

### **11. How financially literate do you consider yourself?**

Sub-questions:

- Did school prepare you for adult financial decisions?
- Have you ever made a purchase that taught you a long-term lesson?
- Should marketing and financial literacy be taught side by side?

### **12. "If it hadn't been on sale, I wouldn't have bought it." How often is this true for you?**

Sub-questions:

- What's your opinion on flash sales and urgency marketing?
- Do you think scarcity tactics are ethical?
- Should there be regulations against certain kinds of sales psychology?

### **13. Should science not social change solve the consequences of overconsumption?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you think technological solutions (like biodegradable materials or carbon capture) can really fix what we're doing?
- Would relying on science let people avoid personal responsibility?
- Can ethics and innovation go hand in hand?



## Unit 8

### 1. Can a landmark ever represent more than just a city maybe even an entire culture?

Sub-questions:

- Which landmark do you think best symbolizes your own country?
- What would be lost if such places disappeared?
- Do people actually visit for the history or just the photo?

### 2. What kind of souvenir says the most about a culture?

Sub-questions:

- Do you prefer meaningful items or typical tourist objects?
- Have you ever bought a souvenir you later regretted or never used?
- Should souvenirs be handmade, local, or practical?

### 3. Can tourism ever be truly sustainable?

Sub-questions:

- What are the real consequences of mass tourism?
- Should countries limit tourist numbers in certain destinations?
- Have you seen any place affected by overtourism?

### 4. Have you ever tried to fit in while living in or visiting another culture?

Sub-questions:

- Did you adjust your behavior, appearance, or communication style?
- Was it easy to blend in or did you feel out of place?
- Should visitors always adapt, or is it okay to stand out?

### **5. If you had to rebrand your hometown to attract global visitors, how would you do it?**

Sub-questions:

- What image would you want the city to project?
- Would you modernize it, or lean into its traditions?
- What challenges would come with the rebranding?

### **6. Are lifestyle trends becoming too globalized?**

Sub-questions:

- Why do so many cities now look, sound, and feel the same?
- Has the world lost its sense of local flavor?
- Do you think this is positive or dangerous for cultural identity?

### **7. What does overconsumption look like in the context of tourism?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you think travelers are often unaware of their impact?
- Should there be limits on what or how much tourists can consume?
- What would responsible tourism really look like?

### **8. Could your identity shift depending on the city or culture you're living in?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever felt your personality change slightly in a different environment?
- Would your ideal lifestyle be possible where you live now?
- How much do place and culture shape who we are?

### **9. What's the difference between being a tourist, a visitor, and a temporary local?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever transitioned between these roles in one trip?
- Which role do you prefer and why?
- Do you think language fluency changes the experience?

### **10. Can a place you visit feel more like “home” than the place you’re from?**

Sub-questions:

- What is it that gives you a sense of belonging in a place?
- Would you consider moving to a city you only visited once?
- Can nostalgia ever be misleading?

### **11. Are famous destinations always worth the hype?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever been disappointed by a place everyone else loved?
- Do influencers and online media create false expectations?
- Should some places remain “undiscovered”?

### **12. If we couldn't travel for leisure anymore, what would we lose and what might we gain?**

Sub-questions:

- Could local travel or digital exploration be enough?
- Would communities recover from mass tourism pressure?
- Would it bring us closer to our own culture?



**13. How would your ideal city strike a balance between modern living and cultural authenticity?**

Sub-questions:

- Would it prioritize tech, tradition, or nature?
- What kind of people would it attract and who might it exclude?
- Could such a place even exist today?



## Unit 9

### **1. Which do you believe has a stronger influence on who we become nature or nurture?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you think of examples where upbringing clearly changed someone's path?
- Are there traits you believe are impossible to alter?
- How might society's role complicate this debate?

### **2. Is it more effective to learn by observing patterns or by intuitively 'reading minds' predicting others' thoughts and feelings?**

Sub-questions:

- Which method have you relied on more?
- Can emotional intelligence be taught, or is it innate?
- How do these approaches affect teamwork?

### **3. How do you think the brain rewires itself after major life changes or learning new skills?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever experienced a moment where you suddenly 'got' something that had been difficult?
- How important is repetition versus variety in learning?
- Can brain plasticity be consciously improved?

**4. Would you say some developmental phases are more crucial than others for acquiring skills?**

Sub-questions:

- Should early childhood education be prioritized more than it is?
- What happens if certain experiences are missed during these phases?
- Can adults truly compensate for gaps in childhood learning?

**5. When learning a new skill, do you find working alone or learning within a group more productive?**

Sub-questions:

- How do social dynamics influence motivation and retention?
- Can collaboration ever hinder individual progress?
- Have you witnessed an instance where teamwork accelerated or blocked learning?

**6. Could someone's cognitive abilities be reshaped simply by changing their environment?**

Sub-questions:

- Is there scientific evidence that supports this idea?
- How does urban versus rural settings affect brain development?
- What role does stress or comfort play in this process?

**7. Is it possible that our brains ‘filter’ reality based on prior experience, making it difficult to see patterns outside our usual frame?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever realized you misunderstood a situation due to this kind of bias?
- How can one overcome mental blind spots?
- Does technology help or worsen this issue?

**8. If you had the chance to reprogram your brain for one specific skill or trait, what would you choose and why?**

Sub-questions:

- How might this change your personal or professional life?
- Would such an ability raise ethical questions?
- Could society become overly dependent on cognitive enhancement?

**9. What’s your take on self-directed learning compared to formal education?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you ever taught yourself something difficult?
- Does formal schooling prepare students well for independent learning?
- How do motivation and discipline affect outcomes in both cases?

**10. How much do genetics determine intelligence versus environmental stimulation?**

Sub-questions:

- Can intelligence be expanded through effort and practice?
- Are IQ tests an accurate measure, or too simplistic?
- How might cultural definitions of intelligence vary?

**11. Do you think people's personalities can change fundamentally over time, or are we largely fixed?**

Sub-questions:

- What experiences do you think trigger deep personal change?
- Can therapy or life coaching effectively reshape personality?
- Is there such a thing as 'true self'?

**12. How has the rise of digital technology impacted our cognitive development and learning habits?**

Sub-questions:

- Are multitasking and constant connectivity helping or harming our brains?
- Have you noticed changes in your attention span or memory?
- How might future technologies further reshape our minds?

**13. Is emotional intelligence as important as traditional IQ in today's world?**

Sub-questions:

- How do these two forms of intelligence interact?
- Can EQ be a deciding factor in career success?
- Should schools focus more on teaching emotional skills?



## Unit 10

### **1. Why do you think the saying ‘opposites attract’ still holds weight, despite evidence that similarity tends to create longer-lasting relationships?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you give examples where differences actually strengthened a couple?
- How might cultural background influence what partners look for?
- Do you think certain personality traits are more likely to attract their opposites?
- Could opposites attract at first but then clash later? Why?

### **2. Do you believe couples with similar characters or backgrounds have an advantage in maintaining relationships?**

Sub-questions:

- What are the potential downsides of too much similarity?
- Have you noticed trends changing over generations?

### **3. How do you view the rise of online dating platforms are they enhancing or complicating genuine connections?**

Sub-questions:

- What risks come with meeting people online?
- How do you think people’s expectations shift when dating digitally?
- How do online dating platforms affect people’s self-image or confidence?
- Do you think these platforms could change the way relationships evolve over time?



#### **4. In what ways might AI communication tools affect how we form emotional bonds?**

Sub-questions:

- Can people develop real feelings for AI assistants or chatbots?
- What implications does this have for human relationships?
- How might AI blur the line between human and machine emotions?
- Could AI companions ever replace human relationships entirely?

#### **5. Have you or someone you know experienced a meaningful connection through online dating? What made it work or fail?**

Sub-questions:

- How important is physical presence compared to digital interaction?
- Do online platforms encourage superficial or deep connections?

#### **6. Do you think online safety and privacy concerns are well understood by users of dating apps?**

Sub-questions:

- What precautions should people take?
- Are platforms doing enough to protect their users?
- How do cultural attitudes affect the way people handle online safety?
- Could stricter regulations on these platforms improve safety or harm user experience?

#### **7. How might AI evolve to better facilitate or even simulate romantic relationships?**

Sub-questions:

- Would you be comfortable with an AI partner? Why or why not?
- Could AI challenge traditional notions of intimacy?

**8. Why might some people prefer online networking over face-to-face socializing?**

Sub-questions:

- How does this affect building trust and rapport?
- Does online networking empower or isolate individuals?

**9. How do you think the idea of a 'perfect match' has changed with the advent of dating algorithms?**

Sub-questions:

- Can algorithms truly predict compatibility?
- What might they miss about human chemistry?
- How do you think people's faith in algorithms affects their approach to relationships?
- Is there a risk of becoming too reliant on technology to find love?

**10. Do you believe long-distance relationships have become more viable thanks to technology, or do they still face insurmountable challenges?**

Sub-questions:

- What role do video calls and messaging play?
- How might emotional connection suffer or thrive at a distance?

**11. How important is shared life philosophy versus shared interests in a successful partnership?**

Sub-questions:

- Can differences in outlook be enriching rather than divisive?
- How do people usually reconcile such differences?

**12. Could reliance on digital communication erode our ability to form deep, face-to-face emotional connections?**

Sub-questions:

- Have you noticed changes in your own communication habits?
- What skills might be at risk?



## Unit 11

### **1. Do you believe some people are inherently more suited to certain skills or professions? Why or why not?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you think of an example where natural talent was more important than practice?
- How much do you think environment and education can change this?
- Do you believe this idea can limit people's opportunities?
- Is it ever useful or harmful to categorize people this way?

### **2. What role do you think emotions play in animal behavior?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you give examples where animals show emotions similar to humans?
- How might understanding this effect how we treat animals?
- Do you think animals experience complex feelings like jealousy or grief?
- How do scientific studies influence public opinion on animal emotions?

### **3. How do you think the food we eat impacts our mood and behavior?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you share an example when your diet affected your emotions?
- What role do cultural food habits play in emotional wellbeing?
- Are there foods you think people overvalue or undervalue regarding mood?
- How much responsibility should individuals take for managing their diet and emotions?

#### **4. What do you think about dress codes in workplaces or schools?**

Sub-questions:

- Are dress codes necessary to maintain professionalism or discipline?
- Can strict dress codes suppress individual expression?
- How do dress codes reflect cultural values or social norms?
- Have you ever experienced or witnessed conflicts over dress codes?

#### **5. The term “junk” is often used for both food and values what do you make of this comparison?**

Sub-questions:

- How does “junk culture” affect society’s priorities?
- Can junk food and junk values both be addictive or harmful?
- What might be the consequences of prioritizing convenience over quality in both food and values?
- How can people become more mindful consumers in these areas?

#### **6. To what extent do you think genetics versus experience shapes personality and behavior?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you think of situations where experience completely transformed someone’s outlook?
- How might this debate influence education or parenting styles?
- Do you believe personality can change significantly later in life?
- Is it fair to judge people based on assumed natural traits?

### **7. How do you think society's attitude toward animals has evolved over time?**

Sub-questions:

- What cultural or historical factors have influenced this change?
- Are there still misconceptions that need to be challenged?
- How do these attitudes reflect our broader ethical values?
- Do you think future societies will treat animals differently than we do now?

### **8. In what ways can food trends impact cultural identity and social behavior?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you give examples of food trends that have lasted or faded?
- How do globalization and media shape these trends?
- Are some food trends more about status or image than nutrition?
- What's your take on the balance between tradition and innovation in food?

### **9. Should dress codes evolve to reflect changing societal values, or preserve tradition?**

Sub-questions:

- What might be the risks and benefits of loosening dress codes?
- How do generational differences affect opinions on dress standards?
- Can dress codes be tools for inclusion or exclusion?
- How do dress codes in different cultures compare?



**10. How do you think consumer culture affects our perception of quality and value in daily life?**

Sub-questions:

- Are we more inclined to buy things for status than utility?
- How does advertising manipulate our sense of need?
- Can minimalist or sustainable lifestyles realistically challenge consumerism?
- What role does education play in shaping smarter consumers?



## Unit 12

### 1. Can innovation ever go too far?

Sub-questions:

- At what point does an invention become dangerous?
- Who should be responsible for setting limits?
- Can you think of a technology we now regret creating?
- Is ethical innovation even possible under capitalism?

### 2. What invention do you believe had the biggest impact on human life and why?

Sub-questions:

- How would life be different without it?
- Could this invention be improved or reimagined today?
- Was it immediately accepted by society, or met with resistance?
- Has it created any new problems?

### 3. What's an everyday object you think is underrated in terms of design or usefulness?

Sub-questions:

- Who do you think invented it?
- What makes it so clever or elegant in your view?
- Could it be redesigned for a modern audience?
- Have you ever thought of ways to improve it?

#### **4. Do you think science fiction has influenced real-world inventions?**

Sub-questions:

- Can you name a sci-fi concept that became reality?
- Do you think fiction shapes scientists' goals and expectations?
- How realistic should sci-fi be?
- Does sci-fi reflect more of our hopes or fears?

#### **5. If you had unlimited resources, what would you invent?**

Sub-questions:

- Would it solve a global problem or a personal one?
- Who would benefit from it most?
- What would make it revolutionary?
- How would it change your own life?

#### **6. Are we living in the most innovative period in history or just the loudest?**

Sub-questions:

- How do you define true innovation versus temporary trends?
- Do you think past generations were more inventive under pressure?
- Has speed overtaken quality in modern invention?
- Could we be close to another major turning point?



**7. What's your opinion on artificial intelligence and its growing presence in creative fields?**

Sub-questions:

- Do you consider AI-generated art or writing a form of creativity?
- Should artists and inventors feel threatened or empowered?
- Where should we draw the line in AI-human collaboration?
- What job do you think will be replaced last?

**8. Should inventors and scientists always work toward "the greater good"?**

Sub-questions:

- What defines a 'good' outcome in this context?
- Can individual ambition lead to greater public benefit or the opposite?
- Should all discoveries be shared freely with the world?

**9. How do you think modern education affects our ability to innovate?**

Sub-questions:

- Does the school system encourage creativity or suppress it?
- Can innovation be taught or is it innate?
- Should schools focus more on problem-solving than memorization?
- Do inventors tend to be outsiders in some way?

## **10. Do you think we overvalue technological innovation and undervalue simple ideas?**

Sub-questions:

- What's the difference between a clever idea and a brilliant invention?
- Are we more impressed by complexity than practicality?
- Can small ideas have bigger long-term impact?
- Have we lost our ability to appreciate subtle genius?

## **11. What's your view on the patent system? Does it protect or hinder innovation?**

Sub-questions:

- Should knowledge ever be protected from public use?
- Do you think patents help inventors, or just corporations?
- Are there inventions that should never be patented?
- What would happen if we removed patents altogether?

