



Society & Living Standards

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

1. Which type of school did you go to? Did you enjoy it?
2. How long have you been learning English? What are your motivations to learn English? Why do you think it is important?
3. How important is it to speak a foreign language in your country?
4. To speak a language well, how important is it to know something about the culture of a country?
5. Do you think English will completely dominate all the other languages in the future? If so, how will it affect the world?
6. If you moved to a bigger city what would you miss from your home town?
7. What do you think about life in big cities?
8. Do you think living standards are good where you live?
9. What are the advantages and disadvantages of settling down in a foreign country?
10. Which customs in your country do people from abroad enjoy?
11. Which aspect of life in your country might be difficult for people from another country?
12. Have you ever been to a country where you found certain aspects of life difficult?
13. How can you define 'a culture shock'? Have you ever experienced it? If so, what did you do to cope with it?
14. Do you agree with this quote?: <<*Cultural differences cause problems. It is better for people to stay in their own countries rather than to migrate to other ones.*>>
15. Would you prefer living in a monoculture or a multi-racial society ("melting pot")? Why?
16. What festivals do you celebrate in your country?
17. What are some of the customs you don't like in your country?
18. Which customs in your country are associated to food?
19. How do you think your current lifestyle and living standards compare with that of your parents?
20. At what age should a son or daughter be allowed to leave home?
21. Do you think there are more single-parent families now?



22. Do you think it's accepted in society now for a man to be a househusband?
23. Should governments use the welfare system to encourage people to live within two parent families?
24. Which aspects of society are improving?
25. Are there any aspects of society that are getting worse?
26. Should unemployed people get state benefits in any country?
27. Do you believe in a high tax economy (e.g. Sweden) which distributes money to education and health, or a low tax economy (e.g. the U.S.A.) where people make private provision for good services?
28. Is immigration a problem in your country?
29. What do you think are the characteristics of a good member of society?
30. Do you think genetic engineering should be used to create good citizens?
31. Do you have a vision of a better society? What changes would you make?
32. What comes to mind when you hear the term 'standard of living'?
33. What's your standard of living like?
34. Has your standard of living gone up or down over the years?
35. What is the standard of living like in your country compared to its neighbours?
36. Do you think standard of living is more important than quality of life?
37. How do countries increase the standard of living for citizens?
38. Would you like to move to the country with the highest standard of living?
39. An Indian spiritual leader said: <<*It is not the standard of living that is important, but the manner of living.*>> Do you agree?
40. What is 'social exclusion'? "Social exclusion is about the inability of our society to keep all groups and individuals within reach of what we expect as a society...[or] to realize their full potential." "Whatever the content and criteria of social membership, socially excluded groups and individuals lack capacity or access to social opportunity.
41. Should abortion be available to women on demand?
42. Should euthanasia be available to people in great pain who want to die?
43. Is it better to work with people to prevent diseases or treat them after they have the disease?