

## COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS ASSESSMENT

- 1. Modern technologies offer people new job opportunities. Do you agree with this?**
  1. What job would you like to do and what qualities do you think you would need?
  2. Is it common for young people in your country to look for employment abroad?
  3. Can computers ever replace human beings? Will robots replace teachers?
  
- 2. Speak about genres of films you like and dislike watching. Explain your answer.**
  1. Do you enjoy watching films based on famous books?
  2. To what extent do reviews make you interested in seeing the film?
  3. Does a happy ending always make a film a best-seller?
  
- 3. Think of a ‘snapshot’ moment of a special holiday and describe why the memory is important to you.**
  1. What are popular holiday destinations for Belarusians?
  2. When you travel, how important is it for you to try the local food?
  3. What are the best and worst things about travelling?
  
- 4. Why not take up sport? Develop the idea.**
  1. Why do many people like watching sports on TV instead of attending live games?
  2. Would you allow your child to take part in serious professional international sports competitions?
  3. How does sport contribute to character-building?
  
- 5. Think globally, act locally. Develop the idea.**
  1. Do you think the problem of environmental pollution will ever be solved?
  2. How will our lives have to change if we want to avoid damaging the environment?
  3. Who has the duty of protecting the environment, the people or the government?

- 6. Practice makes perfect. Is it true about learning English? Why or why not?**
1. What are the disadvantages of online language learning?
  2. Could you give a few tips on how to improve one's English?
  3. Do you have to know the background and the culture of the country before you can fully understand its language?
- 7. "You get what you pay for." Do you think this statement is true for education in your country?**
1. Do you think it is easier to get good grades nowadays?
  2. What is your attitude to private schools and private education?
  3. What kind of jobs do you think you might be suitable for?
- 8. Do you agree with the statement: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn"? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Why are mistakes highly beneficial to learning?
  2. Do you think children learn more effectively in the classroom or outside the classroom?
  3. Why do you think more and more young people are choosing to study abroad?
- 9. Do you agree with the statement: "Things are never quite as scary when you've got a best friend"? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Do you make friends easily? Why or why not?
  2. What qualities do you like and dislike in people? Why?
  3. What is the secret of a long-lasting friendship?
- 10. The strength of a family, like the strength of an army, lies in its loyalty to each other. Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**
1. What are the special occasions when all your family are together?
  2. Could you describe your family tree?
  3. What are the disadvantages of having a small family?

- 11. Do you agree with the statement: “When a habit begins to cost money, it’s called a hobby”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. What are you planning to do at the coming weekend?
  2. What hobbies are popular with women and men in Belarus?
  3. Playing computer games is not a hobby, is it?
- 12. What should people do to keep healthy? Give examples to support your answer.**
1. Why can we say that the vital thing about getting fit is getting started?
  2. Does it cost a lot to eat organic food?
  3. What activities can you think of that are good for the body AND mind?
- 13. Never judge a book by its cover. How does this statement relate to people? Develop the idea.**
1. Who are you similar to in appearance in your family?
  2. What negative qualities or bad habits are you ready to put up with in your best friend?
  3. What are the disadvantages of being an only child?
- 14. What kind of shopper are you? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Is shopping for food a necessity or fun for you?
  2. Is it possible to avoid buying faulty goods?
  3. What shops and departments do you never fail to visit?
- 15. I am proud of being Belarusian. Develop the idea.**
1. What traditions are Belarusians proud of?
  2. Are Belarusian writers, artists and musicians well-known in the world?
  3. Do you conform to the stereotype of your nation?
- 16. The world would be a dull place indeed if all the nationalities behaved exactly alike. Develop the idea.**
1. It is good to respect your own culture and traditions, isn’t it?
  2. What culture besides your own do you admire and why?
  3. What key points should you remember when travelling abroad?

**17. Speak about your eating habits. Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**

1. What is your most and least favourite food?
2. What tips would you give to a person who would like to have a healthy lifestyle?
3. Are eating habits in your home country and the UK/ the USA similar?

**18. Parents are children's first and most important role models. Do you agree with this?**

1. What do you remember when you look back on your childhood?
2. What is an ideal parent like in your opinion?
3. Do you think grandparents usually spoil their grandchildren?

**19. Describe role models and other influences in your life.**

1. Is peer pressure important for teenagers?
2. To what extent do you agree that celebrities are role models?
3. Why do parents sometimes disapprove of their children's peers?

**20. "Belarus is the country which one could not help falling in love with". Develop the idea.**

1. What do you think defines people from your country?
2. The Belarusian language is on the edge of its extinction, isn't it?
3. What sights in Belarus are of cultural and natural heritage?

**21. Traditions influence our lives greatly. Do you agree with this?**

1. What tips would you give to a foreigner who is about to visit Belarus?
2. What image of Britain do centuries-old British traditions create worldwide?
3. Do you know any traditions or holidays that Belarus has borrowed from other countries?

**22. It has often been suggested that people should work to live, rather than live to work. Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**

1. What do you do that is good for your physical AND mental health?
2. Why are jobs with flexible working hours becoming popular nowadays?
3. Is it easy for you to find balance between your studies and free time?

**23. Agree or disagree with the following proverb: “A hobby a day keeps the boredom away”.**

1. Do you agree that these days there are hardly any retired people who are computer-illiterate?
2. What have you been reading lately?
3. What outdoor and indoor activities do you enjoy doing?

**24. Describe a house of your dreams.**

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of living away from home?
2. What chores about the house do you usually do?
3. Is it important to get on with your neighbours?

**25. Describe advantages of joining a fitness club.**

1. In what way do sports contribute to developing a person’s character and team spirit?
2. How do you feel about extreme sports?
3. Do you believe that playing a sports game is fun only when you win?