

COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS ASSESSMENT

1. **Agree or disagree with the following statement: “The advance of technology is based on making it fit so that you don’t really even notice it, so it’s part of everyday life.”**
 1. Do you think technology is causing young people to have shorter attention spans? Why? / Why not?
 2. What effect has the Internet had on the way we receive news and information?
 3. Why do you think people become addicted to digital media?

2. **Agree or disagree with the following statement: “Take vacations, and go as many places as you can. You can always make money, but you can’t always make memories”.**
 1. Do you usually seek the advice of others when choosing a holiday, or search for information on your own?
 2. What factors influence your choice of holiday?
 3. What can people learn from visiting places of historical interest?

3. **Do you agree with the statement: “Happy is the man who is living by his hobby”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
 1. Have you ever performed in public? How did you feel? If you haven’t, would you like to? Why / Why not?
 2. Do you think it is a good idea to keep a record of your thoughts and experiences?
 3. If you had the time, the money and opportunity, what sort of item would you collect?

4. **Do you agree with the statement: “Exercise not only changes your body, it changes your mind, your attitude and your mood”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
 1. Do you prefer doing sport or being a spectator?
 2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of professional sport?
 3. How do you think international sporting events can influence understanding between nations?

- 5. Do you agree with the statement: “If the environment is happy, people will laugh and your grief will go away”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. In what ways can people try to help the environment in their daily lives?
 2. What factors should you consider when planning to keep animals at home?
 3. If you were given the opportunity to take a year out to spend studying wildlife or the environment generally, where would you choose to go and why?
- 6. Agree or disagree with following statement: “With languages, you are at home anywhere.”**
1. What sources do you find most useful for language learning?
 2. Do you agree that text messages are destroying the language?
 3. What influences from other languages are evident in your mother tongue?
- 7. “Education’s purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.” Give your opinion on the role of education in our country.**
1. Can you learn from other people or only from books and digital material? Why / Why not?
 2. How important are your books to you? Are you happy with where they are in your home?
 3. What reasons can you think of that might attract people to online distance learning?
- 8. “All the memories of school are filled with golden moments.” Speak about your school and your studies.**
1. Do you have any good or bad study habits? Which of them are you proud or guilty of?
 2. Can you see yourself becoming an educator? Why / Why not?
 3. Why do you think many children don’t like school?
- 9. Do you agree with the statement: “Life is an awful, ugly place to not have a best friend”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. How easy is it to find old friends or family that you have lost touch with over the Internet?
 2. Does your friend believe in horoscopes? Why? / Why not?
 3. If someone wrote a book about your friend, what would it be called?

- 10. Do you agree with the statement: “The family is one of nature’s masterpieces”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Who are the most influential people in your family?
 2. How do you handle disagreements or conflicts within the family?
 3. Are you so close to any of your friends that you consider them to be like family?
- 11. Do you agree with the statement: “The quality of a life is determined by its activities”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. What social activities do you enjoy doing in your leisure time?
 2. Do you think that museums are dying out? Why? / Why not?
 3. In what way can involvement in art help children develop their personality?
- 12. Do you agree with the statement: “Your dream job does not exist. You must create it”? Give examples to support your answer.**
1. Can you think of any jobs where the use of language plays a major role? Do they appeal to you at all? Why? / Why not?
 2. What qualifications do you need for your chosen field?
 3. What recent developments (e.g. technological and sociological) are changing the way people work, and in what professions?
- 13. “Life is a reflection of character; character is a reflection of thoughts.” Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**
1. Who is your role model?
 2. What did you learn from your greatest failure?
 3. What would your friends say about you?
- 14. Do you agree with the statement: “For me shopping is a way to unwind”? Give examples to support your answer.**
1. Do you see more advantages or disadvantages in shopping online?
 2. What would you pay more for: something that will last longer or something that is fashionable?
 3. How does fashion influence our lives (clothes, art, collectibles, etc.)?

- 15. Do you agree with the following statement: “Books are uniquely portable magic”? Give examples to support your answer.**
1. Which type of book would you take with you to read on holiday, and why?
 2. Do you know what bookcrossing is? Have you ever given books you have read to other people?
 3. What do you think of giving books as a present? Is there anything else that you would prefer to give and / or receive?
- 16. Do you agree with the statement: “I like traditions, and national anthem is important”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. What is the value of local communities holding celebrations?
 2. Do you know of any traditional skills that are in use in our country?
 3. When innovations occur in the science or the arts, how do people often respond? Can you think of any examples from history?
- 17. Do you agree with the statement: “Eat well, live well, be well”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Are you careful about what you eat?
 2. Why do some people find it hard to follow a healthy diet?
 3. Do you think coffee houses are important today? Why / Why not?
- 18. Do you agree with the statement: “The memories we make with our family is everything”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. Who are you most proud of among your relatives? Who do you look up to?
 2. What will you teach your children? (what values, beliefs, hobbies, skills, etc.)
 3. Do you have any special family recipes that have been passed down through generations?
- 19. “Time doesn't take away from friendship, nor does separation.” Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**
1. Can a person be happy and well-adjusted without any friends?
 2. Are there any differences between male and female friendships?
 3. If you were the boss, would you give jobs to your friends?

- 20. “Without volunteers, we would be a nation without a soul.” Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**
1. Do you know of any celebrities who are involved in charity work?
 2. Why do you think people volunteer to work at wildlife rescue centres?
 3. When was the last time you heard of your country giving aid to another country?
- 21. Do you agree with the statement: “My hometown will always have a special place in my heart”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. With regard to old buildings, do you think the better policy is to pull them down and replace them with modern buildings or spend money on restoring them?
 2. What social activities do you participate in in your local community?
 3. How well do you know your neighbours?
- 22. Do you agree with the statement: “True friends are never apart, maybe in distance but never in heart”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.**
1. What does your friend normally do to capture a special moment on holiday?
 2. What negative qualities or bad habits are you ready to put up with in your best friend?
 3. If your friend’s life had a theme song, what would it be?
- 23. “Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.” Do you agree or disagree? Explain your answer.**
1. How do you think the best contemporary performers achieved excellence in their particular field?
 2. Do you think concert etiquette should be taught by parents? Why?
 3. Which types of performing arts do you think are the most accessible to young people?

24. Do you agree with the following statement: “Belarus is the country which one could not help falling in love with”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.

1. What makes you proud of your Motherland?
2. What sights in Belarus are of cultural and natural heritage?
3. What do you think should be done to promote the Belarusian language?

25. Do you agree with the following statement: “If you keep good food in your fridge, you will eat good food”? Give reasons and examples to support your answer.

1. What is your opinion of fast food? Is it all unhealthy?
2. In the modern world, what problems do we have to deal with regarding the purchase and preparation of food?
3. What kind of foods do you think are suitable for athletes?