Conversation Comprehension

Read the conversations below and check the correct answers. (50%, 2 points/each)

I. We are from Japan

T&Y = Taki & Yuki

Tim: Hi. I’m Tim, from America.
Yuki: Hi, Tim. I’m Yuki. And this is my friend Taki. We’re from Japan.
Taki: Nice to meet you.
Tim: And you too, Taki. I guessed you are both from Japan.
Yuki: Really? How do you know?
Tim: Because you both have black hair and brown eyes.
Taki: Ha-ha! Yes, it’s true. And we guessed you’re American, because…
Tim: I’m chubby, right? Yeah, we do love our food in the States.
Yuki: Who’s the girl we see you with? She has long curly hair and blue eyes.
Tim: Oh, that’s my girlfriend, Jessica. She’s also from the States.
Yuki: Really? She doesn’t look American.
Taki: She looks too thin.
Tim: Well, she likes her food, too. But she only eats salad.
T&Y: Ha-ha!

1. Where is Jessica from?
   a. Canada    b. Japan    c. The States    d. Italy

2. Who is a little fat?

3. Who looks the same?
   a. Jessica and Tim    b. Tim and Yuki    c. Yuki and Taki    d. All of the above

4. Who is from America?
   a. Both Tim and Jessica    b. Just Jessica    c. Just Tim    d. All of the above

5. Who has blue eyes?
   a. Jessica    b. Taki    c. Yuki    d. All of the above

6. Who likes salad?
   a. Jessica    b. Tim    c. Yuki    d. All of the above
7. What is Jessica’s hair like?
   a. Long    b. Straight    c. Long and straight    d. None of the above

8. What do Yuki and Taki think about Americans?
   a. They are thin.  b. They are short.  c. They are chubby.  d. All of the above

II. What’s Your Star Sign?

James: Hello, I’m James. The teacher told me I’m one of your partners for the research project. Nice to meet you.

Cherry: Hi, I’m Cherry. It’s a pleasure to meet you. Welcome to the group.

James: Thanks. What’s your major?

Cherry: My major is marketing. You?

James: I’m a physics major. Just out of curiosity, what’s your star sign?

Cherry: I’m a Leo. My younger brother says that’s why I’m so outgoing.

James: They do say that about Leos.

Cherry: I think star signs are interesting. But I need to focus on this project because I’m really struggling.

James: Well, maybe I can help you after class.

Cherry: Wow, thanks! I really appreciate it, James. Where do you want to meet?

James: We can meet at the school library if that’s convenient for you. Where do you live?

Cherry: I live in the dorm, so that works for me. It’s only about a 15-minute walk.

James: Great. If you have time after we’re done studying, why don’t we get a bite to eat and see a movie?

Cherry: Whoa! Slow down. I’m just looking for a partner, not a date.

9. What’s James’ major?

10. What does the teacher tell James?
    a. James and Cherry will study the stars together.
    b. James and Cherry will have the same major.
    c. James and Cherry will work together on a project.
    d. None of the above.

11. Why does Cherry need James’ help?
    a. She is very interested in marketing.
    b. Her major is not actually physics.
    c. She is making an effort on this course.
    d. None of the above.

12. What does James want to do after they study?
    a. Go to the library and have coffee with Cherry
    b. Get a drink and watch TV with Cherry
    c. Go to dinner and see a movie with Cherry
    d. None of the above
13. Where does Cherry live?
   a. In her parents’ home near the school
   b. In a large house outside of the school campus
   c. In a building where many students live
   d. None of the above

14. Where will Cherry and James meet?
   a. Cherry’s dorm        b. A convenience store    c. The school library    d. A coffee shop

15. What is Cherry looking for?
   a. Someone to be her boyfriend
   b. Someone to watch movies with her
   c. Someone to help with her studies
   d. None of the above

16. Why does James ask Cherry what her star sign is?
   a. Because she’s a marketing major.
   b. Someone tells him to ask her.
   c. He has a desire to know.
   d. None of the above.

III. How Was Last Weekend?
Dave: What’s up? How was last weekend? Where were you?
Betty: It wasn’t that exciting. I just went to an amusement park on Saturday.
Dave: Oh, yeah? That sounds exciting.
Betty: Well, I wanted to go on some cool rides, but it wasn’t to be.
Dave: Why? What happened?
Betty: The amusement park only had rides for small children. It was pretty boring.
Dave: Was Kenny with you at the amusement park?
Betty: No, not Kenny. I went with his brother Lenny.
Dave: What? Did you break up with Kenny?
Betty: No, not yet. I was angry with Kenny so I went with his brother Lenny instead. I just wanted to make Kenny jealous.
Dave: Really? Did it work?
Betty: Not at all. He wasn’t even a bit nervous. He knows I think Lenny is boring.
Dave: Yeah, Lenny is kind of a loser. I know how you can teach Kenny a lesson. Go out with me this Saturday. We’ll have a great time!
Betty: I’m surprised at you, Dave. I always thought you were shy.
Dave: I guess you didn’t understand the true me.
Betty: OK then, let’s do it. Just tell me the time and place, and I’ll be there.

17. Did Betty enjoy her weekend?
   a. No, she felt it wasn’t exciting.
   b. No, she felt it wasn’t boring.
   c. Yes, she felt it was exciting.
   d. None of the above.
18. What did Betty do last weekend?
   a. She went to dinner with Dave.
   b. She went to an amusement park.
   c. She went to see her brother Lenny.
   d. None of the above.

19. How did Betty think the rides were?
   a. She thought they were funny.
   b. She thought they were small.
   c. She thought they were boring.
   d. None of the above.

20. Who did Betty go to the amusement park with?
   a. Lenny    b. Kenny    c. Dave    d. None of the above

21. How did Kenny make Betty feel?
   a. Angry    b. Happy    c. Proud    d. None of the above

22. Betty wanted Kenny to feel...
   a. jealous.   b. nervous.   c. pleased.   d. happy.

23. How did Kenny respond to Betty’s going out with Lenny?

24. Who does Betty think is boring?

25. What did Betty think about Dave before?
   a. He was very jealous.   b. He was very boring.
   c. He was very shy.       d. None of the above.

**Reading Comprehension (50%, 2 points/each)**

I. Read the notice about Tina’s requirement and check the correct answers.
ROOMMATE WANTED
To share small apartment located 5 mins from university

The apartment:
- Fully furnished, bright, clean, quiet, 2-bedroom apartment
- living room, bathroom, kitchen, balcony, and rooftop
- washing machine and dryer
- wireless Internet
- close to supermarket, bus stops, park, and subway
- $5,000/month, including gas, electricity, and Internet
- no parking available

You:
- female 
- quiet (mostly) 
- clean 
- nonsmoker 
- mature
- must like cats 
- prefer a Libra or Aquarius 
- NO Sagittarius, please!

Me:
- female 
- majoring in math 
- member of the English club 
- Gemini

Contact:
Tina - tina5453134@mit.edu - 5556-2347 - skype: mathhtinaln

26. What can you NOT do in this apartment?
   a. Cook    b. Like cats    c. Smoke    d. All of the above

27. What does this apartment NOT have?
   a. A place to park a car
   b. A way of doing your laundry
   c. A table for you to eat food on
   d. All of the above

28. What is NOT included in the rent $5,000/month?
   a. gas    b. Internet    c. security    d. all of the above

29. What makes this apartment most convenient for a university student?
   a. Tina is a member of the film club.
   b. It is near the university.
   c. It is close to the subway.
   d. All of the above.

30. What personal information does Tina give about herself?
   a. She gives her star sign.
   b. She says that she’s a smoker.
   c. She explains that she has a car.
   d. All of the above.
II. Read the article below and check the correct answers.

*English 101*

There are many different greetings in English, from formal to informal. Fortunately, you do not have to memorize a lot of different replies to each greeting. The simplest way to reply to a greeting, in fact, is just to repeat the same greeting back to the speaker.

For example, if someone greets you with “Good morning,” just answer “Good morning.” Repeating most questions back is an easy—and polite—way to reply. “Hi,” “hello,” “what’s up,” and “hey” can all be repeated without adding anything. If someone says, “How are you?” it is fine to reply:

“How are you?” But don’t forget to add a simple “Fine” or “Good” beforehand.

Of course, the person asking “How are you?” or “How have you been?” does not want a lengthy reply about how you are doing or how you have been, unless you are close friends. Instead, that person is just using a common greeting to say “hello.” Remember that most greetings do not need a long response, and you will be well on your way to interacting with others in English.

31. Why is it unnecessary to remember a lot of greeting replies?
   a. Because people don’t usually bother with greetings in English
   b. Because there are not that many greetings in English
   c. Because you can repeat the greeting back to the speaker
   d. All of the above

32. Repeating most questions back is actually ____________.
   a. quite difficult   b. not that hard   c. a bit rude   d. all of the above

33. According to the article, why do people usually ask “How are you?”
   a. To get a lengthy reply
   b. Just to acknowledge you
   c. Because they want to be your friend
   d. All of the above

34. What is important to remember?
   a. A lot of new vocabulary
   b. To be polite and easy-going
   c. Long responses are unnecessary
   d. All of the above

35. Which of the following is the most suitable title?
   a. Interacting with the English
   b. Memorizing the Words
   c. How to Reply to Greetings
   d. None of the above

III. Read the article below and check the correct answers.

*Getting Around Taipei*

Taipei is the entertainment capital of Taiwan, but is also the traffic jam capital. For this reason, people in the city often avoid going out. With the opening of the MRT lines, however, getting around has
become a treat.

The Mucha Line has made the Taipei Zoo an easy place to get to. With its new popularity, the zoo has been able to open additional exhibits, including those with koalas and penguins. The MRT may have made the zoo too accessible though. These days, it is wise to visit on weekdays to avoid the crowds.

Going north, we come to the Nankang Line, which could be renamed "the Shopping Line." Much of the way is lined with department stores, from the Yungchun Station in the east to the Taipei Train Station. The eastern end has high-priced shopping (the Dinghao area), and the west is lower-priced (the Taipei Train Station and Hsimenting).

Regardless of where you want to go in Taipei, it is easy to get from one end of the city to another. Today, there is no reason to stay at home, doing nothing.

36. Why did Taipei’s residents avoid going out?
   a. They didn’t like the high prices when shopping.
   b. They loved staying at home, doing nothing.
   c. They couldn’t stand all of the traffic.
   d. All of the above.

37. What has made the zoo easy to get to?
   a. The Taipei Train Station
   b. The new MRT lines
   c. The traffic jams
   d. All of the above

38. Why is it a good idea to go to the zoo during the week?
   a. The zoo is more crowded on weekends than it used to be.
   b. The additional exhibits are only open on weekdays.
   c. The Mucha MRT Line is only open during the week.
   d. All of the above.

39. Why could the Nankang Line be renamed the Shopping Line?
   a. People sell lower-priced items on this MRT line.
   b. Only people rich enough to shop in the Dinghao area use it.
   c. The line runs by many of Taipei’s department stores.
   d. All of the above.

40. What piece of advice does the writer give?
   a. People should stay home and take it easy.
   b. We shouldn’t miss the koala and penguin exhibits.
   c. Go out and take advantage of the new MRT lines.
   d. All of the above.
IV. Read the article below and check the correct answers.

*After an Interview*

You have just finished a successful interview. You answered all the interviewer’s questions and even asked some good ones of your own. It’s time to celebrate, or at least to relax, right?

Wrong! Job experts say that the first thing you should do after an interview is write a thank-you note. In the past, this was an actual letter, but if people in the company use e-mail heavily, your e-mailed thank-you note will seem right in step. It’s also a fast solution if you know the company will be making its hiring decision quickly.

The thank-you note should thank the interviewer for taking the time to meet with you. It should also mention again why you are the best person for the job; a thank-you note is a great chance to highlight your qualifications and experience.

Promptly sending a thank-you letter shows that you are responsible, enthusiastic, and detail-oriented. Most importantly, it lets a potential employer know directly that you are very interested in the job. It may be just the advantage you need to get your dream job!

41. “You answered all the interviewer’s questions and even asked some good ones of your own.” What does “ones” refer to?
   a. Interview   b. Time   c. Questions   d. None of the above

42. What should people do after an interview?
   a. Relax   b. Follow up   c. Celebrate   d. None of the above

43. Why should you contact the interviewer following the interview?
   a. To simply say thank you to the interviewer
   b. To improve your chances of getting the job
   c. To meet some new people in the company
   d. None of the above

44. A thank-you letter should do all of the following BUT ________.
   a. point out your experience
   b. touch on your qualifications
   c. give solutions to company problems
   d. none of the above

45. What does a prompt thank-you letter do?
   a. It shows how impolite other people are.
   b. It shows the interviewer your writing skills.
   c. It shows what kind of person you are.
   d. None of the above.

46. Thank-you letter are important because ________.
   a. they are the only actual letters you might send
   b. they let employers know you want the job
   c. they prove that you are a fast thinker
   d. none of the above
V. Read the article below and check the correct answers.

American School Dances

There are many different kinds of dance parties and social events, ranging from formal to informal. Perhaps the most common in junior high and high schools in the United States are school dances.

Every school is different, but school dances are usually held in the school’s gymnasium or cafeteria. These places are decorated with lights, streamers, and posters for the event. In the past, bands usually performed. These days, a DJ playing records or CDs is in control of the music.

Students may bring their dates to the school dance. Those who do not have dates attend with their friends. Normally, school dances are held on a Friday or Saturday evening. Parents and teachers serve as chaperones at the events. Most parents also set a curfew for their children.

Parents are more comfortable with school dances than other forms of entertainment. The supervision at such events helps lower the chances that alcohol or substance abuse will be a problem.

47. How are school dances and social events described?
   a. They are extremely formal.
   b. They’re both formal and casual.
   c. Normally, they’re very casual.
   d. None of the above.

48. Where do school dances take place?
   a. Only in the cafeteria
   b. In record or CD stores
   c. In the gym or cafeteria
   d. None of the above

49. Why do parents and teachers go to school dances?
   a. Parents and teachers like to dance.
   b. They like the music the DJs are playing.
   c. They want to keep an eye on things.
   d. None of the above.

50. How do the parents supervise their kids without going to the school dances?
   a. These parents restrict how late their kids can stay out.
   b. They tell their kids not to abuse alcohol or substances.
   c. Parents who do not attend dances keep their kids at home.
   d. None of the above.
育達商業科技大學
九十九學年度第二學期日間部暨進修部轉學考試

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