

# Unit 1 A new journey

## WARM UP

### Reference answers

	Student 1	Student 2
<b>What's your name?</b>	My name is Li Ping.	My name is Lan Lan.
<b>Where are you from?</b>	I'm from Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi Province.	I'm from Kunming, a city in southwestern China.
<b>What are you most proud of about your hometown?</b>	Xi'an has a long history and it served as the capital for 13 dynasties in Chinese history.	I'm most proud of the pleasant climate in my hometown. It is like spring all year round.
<b>What three words would you use to describe your personality?</b>	I would choose easygoing, reliable, and hardworking.	I am introvert, friendly, honest, and witty.
<b>What are your hobbies?</b>	I like reading novels, playing guitar, and blogging.	I like watching movies, keeping diaries, cycling, and cooking.

## PRONUNCIATION

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### Script

1 major    2 Africa    3 neighbor    4 snacks    5 themes  
6 now    7 thousand    8 thought    9 question    10 expression

### Answers

1-10 ABBBA CABCB

②

### Script

- 1 A total of 56 South African students have won a Chinese government scholarship this year and will leave for China shortly.
- 2 My job is to lead you to the fountain of knowledge.
- 3 Choosing a minor often means you have less time for your major area.
- 4 October is usually the busiest month in the academic calendar in Britain.
- 5 There will be thousands of others in the same boat as you.

## **LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND**

### **NEWS REPORT 1**

#### **Script**

A total of 56 South African students have won a Chinese government scholarship this year and will leave for China shortly.

The Chinese government scholarships for international students are granted by the Chinese Ministry of Education. The aim is to promote the shared understanding, cultural exchange, and knowledge exchange between China and other countries, and to enhance high-quality education. The program now covers nearly 300 Chinese universities.

Among the 56 South African receivers of the scholarships this year, about three quarters are going to pursue doctor's and master's degrees in over 30 majors.

Maria Smith, one of the receivers, will pursue a master's degree in public administration in Beijing. She said after graduation, she wants to return to help her country and to be a link between the Chinese and the people of her country.

#### **Answers**

1 D      2 A

### **NEWS REPORT 2**

#### **Script**

The great majority of colleges and universities in the U.S. allow students to apply without ACT or SAT scores to enter in the fall this year.

ACT and SAT were once considered crucial to applying to colleges and universities. In recent years, however, more and more schools have become "test optional". Applicants for such schools can choose whether they want to include test scores in their applications.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the test-optional trend has grown faster. This year, there are more than 1,700 schools on the test-optional list, including nearly all of the nation's famous colleges and universities.

Observers are still unable to decide whether the test-optional trend will become a longer-term policy after the pandemic.

### **Culture notes**

ACT (American College Test 美国大学测验) and SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test 学业能力倾向测验) are standardized tests widely used for college admissions in the U.S. ACT assesses the knowledge and skills that are taught in high school and that are necessary for success in college, while SAT measures literacy and writing skills, and assesses how well a student analyzes and solves problems.

### **Answers**

1 D      2 C

### **NEWS REPORT 3**

#### **Script**

More than 100,000 international students entered Dutch colleges and universities in the 2021/22 academic year. This is 3.5 times as many as in 2005/06. Most of the international students have come from other European countries. In recent years, the number of students from Asia has also increased.

Now, most international students in the Netherlands pursue a bachelor's degree rather than a master's, whereas a few years ago, most international students chose the country to study for a master's degree.

The most popular courses in 2021/22 for international students were journalism, behavioral science, and social studies.

Some students reported the high quality of Dutch higher education institutions as the most important factor attracting them to choose the Netherlands. It is also relatively inexpensive to study in the Netherlands compared with other European countries. The friendly social environment certainly adds to the attractiveness of the Dutch higher education institutions as well.

### **Answers**

1 D      2 C      3 C

### **LISTEN TO COMMUNICATE**

#### **CONVERSATION 1**

#### **Script**

**Joan:** Hi. My name is Joan.

**Mark:** Hi, Joan. I'm Mark. Glad to meet you.

**Joan:** Nice to meet you, too. So where are you from?

**Mark:** I'm from Texas.

**Joan:** Oh ... I'm from California.

**Mark:** So, what year are you?

**Joan:** I'm a fresher.

**Mark:** This is my first year, too.

**Joan:** So what made you decide to come to California? There are some good universities in Texas.

**Mark:** That's right. But I wanted to be away from home and experience something different.

**Joan:** So was UC Berkeley your first choice?

**Mark:** To tell you the truth, I wanted to go to Stanford. I made it on the waiting list, but few people would give up their place if they were accepted to Stanford. So here I am.

**Joan:** Well, this is still a good university, too. So what do you plan on majoring in?

**Mark:** I was thinking about social science, but now I'm leaning toward psychology. How about you?

**Joan:** I plan on majoring in engineering.

**Mark:** That's fantastic. By the way, do you know where the Wheeler Hall is?

**Joan:** It's over there by the library.

**Mark:** Thanks. It was nice meeting you.

**Joan:** Yeah, same here. See you later.

**Mark:** See you.

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**Answers**

1 B   2 C   3 C   4 C

②

**Answers**

1 waiting list      2 give up      3 majoring in      4 leaning toward

## CONVERSATION 2

**Script**

**Sara:** Hi. I'm Sara.

**Jessica:** My name is Jessica. It's nice to meet you.

**Sara:** Nice to meet you as well.

**Jessica:** Have you been here long?

**Sara:** I got here about an hour ago. Do you want me to show you around the dormitory building?

**Jessica:** Thanks, that would be great. The most important is the bathroom, right?

**Sara:** Sure. But we have to share the bathroom with the whole floor. The break room is over there. The bathroom is right across from the break room.

**Jessica:** I'm glad there's a TV in the break room. I like watching TV.

**Sara:** Me too. So I brought one. It's a little TV that works.

**Jessica:** Cool. I brought a refrigerator. Feel free to use it.

**Sara:** That would be perfect. I think we're going to have a great time.

**Jessica:** Do you sleep pretty late, or are you a morning person?

**Sara:** I've never been either. I'm very flexible with sleeping time. Anyway, I'm a heavy sleeper, so a little noise never bothers me.

**Jessica:** That's good to know. I'm usually a night person, but I'm very quiet if my roommate is sleeping.

**Sara:** As long as you don't play the music loudly while I'm sleeping, I should be fine. Have you had lunch yet?

**Jessica:** No. Is there a cafeteria in the building?

**Sara:** Yeah. I'll show you.

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**Answers**

1 She is showing her around the dormitory building.

2 Roommates.

3 A TV.

4 Their sleeping time.

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**Answers**

1 D 2 C 3 A 4 A

**ACT-OUT**

**Reference answers**

- 1) I'm a sophomore
- 2) Why did you decide to come to this university
- 3) what are you majoring in
- 4) I'm majoring in
- 5) How many credits are you taking this semester

**LISTEN TO SHARE**

**PASSAGE 1**

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**Reference answers**

- **Class time:** High school courses have a relatively fixed schedule. However, at university, the schedule of classes is flexible. For example, university students may choose to have elective classes or take minors in the evening or over the weekend.
- **Study time:** High school students and university students may spend about the same amount of time studying. However, university students are usually more independent in managing their study time while in high school, teachers usually provide more guidance and supervision to ensure students' progress and quality of learning.

- **Test:** High school exams are mainly quizzes and tests, while university exams are more diverse, such as open-ended questions, essay writing, project reports, presentations, etc.
- **Teacher:** In high school, teachers are expected to instruct courses and supervise the students in their daily study. At university, professors are mainly responsible for the course content so they are not as much engaged in the students' affairs as their high school counterparts.

### Teaching tips

The differences mentioned above are largely based on studies in Chinese high schools and universities. Also, Ss should be encouraged to describe more differences from their own perspectives.

### Script

Welcome to higher education! If you want to be successful here, you need to know a few things about how this place works. One of them is the difference between the teachers you will have here and those you had in high school. Let me explain this to you.

First, I'm your professor, not your teacher. A teacher's job is to make sure that you learn. However, things are very different for a university professor. It's not part of my job to make you learn. At university, you should take the initiative to learn. My job is to lead you to the fountain of knowledge. It is entirely up to you whether you learn and how well you learn.

Secondly, your teachers in high school prepared you mainly for all those important tests. However, we are university professors and we enjoy a large degree of academic freedom. That means that, to a certain degree, we decide what to teach in our courses and how to teach it. The courses will probably include a good number of lectures, some discussion but little or no test preparation.

Finally, you need to learn to listen critically. Critical listening means that you are not just listening but you are questioning and thinking about what you hear. On this basis, you decide whether to accept it or not.

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### Answers

1 B 2 A 3 B

③

### Reference answers

University professors are different from high school teachers in a couple of ways. High school teachers have to make sure that students learn. However, university professors' responsibility is to lead students to the fountain of knowledge and show students what and how to learn. Also, high school teachers have to spend time preparing students for important tests, but university professors have more freedom to decide what they teach in the courses and how they teach it.

## PASSAGE 2

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### Reference answers

1 Students may choose a minor that complements their major, or they may choose one that is completely unrelated to their major to broaden their academic experience and explore other academic interests. Additionally, having a minor can enhance a student's professional skills, which may enhance their professional opportunities.

2 If I can, I want to choose to minor in foreign languages. Because the world is becoming increasingly globalized, multilingualism is becoming the norm rather than the exception. Besides, I'm quite interested in various cultures. Learning a foreign language opens doors to new opportunities and gives me a totally new way of life.

### Script

Your major is the subject area you select because you want to pursue graduate study in that field or a related field, or because you want to get a job in that field later. Your minor is another story. It can be a subject completely unrelated to your major. Or it can be a subject related to your major and may help you when you look for a job or apply for postgraduate study.

A minor may offer students new career opportunities and enable them to learn a lot about a certain subject. However, it has its problems. It doesn't necessarily give you an advantage in getting a better job. A feature of university education is concentration on one subject, which results in great progress in that field. A minor could distract you from this goal. Choosing a minor often means you have less time for your major area.

So, choosing a minor can be a difficult decision to make. If you're just looking for a way to keep yourself busy, consider taking additional courses in your major field, or select a minor related to your major. But if you're truly interested in a subject, you have a good reason to choose an unrelated minor.

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### Answers

1 D 2 C 3 D

③

### Answers

- 1 subject area
- 2 opportunities
- 3 concentration
- 4 additional courses

## DISCUSSION

### Reference answers

1 In high school, the teacher usually leads the classroom and imparts knowledge and skills to students, while in university, a greater emphasis is placed on independent thinking and developing self-learning abilities. In this context, teachers act as guides, encouraging students to explore problems, seek out answers, and providing professional support and feedback. University professors are like mentors. They seldom discipline students like high school teachers do.

To adapt to the teaching at university, I think it's important for me to know the differences between university professors and high school teachers. I should be independent in my study. At the same time, I should reflect on my study regularly and gradually develop the methods which work best for me.

2 It is of great value to take a minor at university. Minors offer a good way for students to be familiar with a certain field or minors can complement students' majors in some case. But minors consume a lot of time so balancing majors and minors becomes a potential burden for students.

## TALK ABOUT CHINA

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### Reference answers

1 According to the passage, China's higher education system is one of the largest in the world. In 2022, China had more than 44 million college students and over 3,000 colleges and universities.

2 China has made great achievements in education. China has successfully implemented nine-year compulsory education. That means all children can receive free education from primary school to middle school. In 2022, the completion rate of nine-year compulsory education was 95.5%. As a result, the literacy rate has reached over 95%.

## **VIEW THE WORLD**

### **Script**

Now is the turning point of your life. You may feel worried or alarmed as you find yourself in a new place, surrounded by new people and new things. But enjoy these feelings. Enjoy the confusion and anxiety of the unknown. Great things await those that go in search of the unknown. What will happen to you in the years ahead will go beyond your expectations. In these years, you'll discover who you are; in these years, you'll start dealing with society's biggest challenges, and begin to make a difference to the world and the people around you. There's one thing we are sure about: You too will change. You will grow. You are coming to a place that enables and inspires, a place that helps you realize your own dreams. During your journey here, you will come upon great people from the past; you will develop lifelong friendships. Here is a place where you will grow to stand shoulder to shoulder with great minds, side by side with friends, break well-accepted practices, discover new ways of being curious, establish your own path, pioneer your own way of doing things, because the style of every student makes up that of the university as a whole. Whether you are coming from near or far, welcome to the university.

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### **Answers**

- 1 turning point; worried
- 2 await; unknown
- 3 discover; challenges
- 4 come upon; lifelong friendships
- 5 practices; curious; path; as a whole

**②**

### **Reference answers**

- 1 During their university years, students will learn knowledge and develop skills so that they will be able to cope with the challenges in the real world. At the same time, students will grow in a number of ways. For example, they will make new friends, expand their horizons, have new ideas, start their own careers, etc.
- 2 Students come to university with different expectations. I hope I'll be more independent, more self-confident, more professional, more sociable, etc.

## **FURTHER LISTENING**

### **NEWS REPORT**

### **Script**

Currently Singapore is working on increasing the number of students taking the “work-study pathway”, announced by the spokesperson of the Ministry of Education recently.

The work-study pathway program introduces vocational training in schools, as well as internships with companies or institutions. Courses will be taught by lecturers from the participating companies. The companies will then cover part of the cost of the courses and students will be funded during the program.

The system will help Singaporean students get on-the-job training and classes they need to adapt to the workplace easily after they graduate. It will also enable students to have a better understanding of the work environments and to develop key skills to help them adapt.

Currently, about 3 percent of students in Singapore are taking work-study programs and the figure is expected to increase to 12 percent by 2030, according to the spokesperson.

### **Answers**

1 D 2 B 3 C

## **CONVERSATION**

### **Script**

**Student:** Good morning, miss.

**Librarian:** Morning. Can I help you?

**Student:** Yes, I'd like to know how to use the library. You know, I'm a new student here.

**Librarian:** All you need is your student ID card to check out books.

**Student:** Yes. Here's my ID card.

**Librarian:** That's all you need.

**Student:** Thank you very much. By the way, how many books am I allowed to check out?

**Librarian:** You can check out two books at a time. But you can't check out newspapers, magazines, and periodicals; they have to be read in the library.

**Student:** How long can I keep the books?

**Librarian:** For two weeks. After that you must renew the books if you wish to keep them longer.

**Student:** Can I use the copy machine?

**Librarian:** Yes, but you have to pay for using it.

**Student:** How much?

**Librarian:** Ten cents a copy.

**Student:** Am I limited to a certain number of copies?

**Librarian:** No, you can copy as many as you want as long as they are for your own use only.

**Student:** That's wonderful. Thank you. I want a book on physics. Could you show me where I can find it?

**Librarian:** Yes, over there, to your left.

### **Answers**

1 B 2 A 3 A 4 B

## PASSAGE

### Script

October is usually the busiest month in the academic calendar in Britain. Universities have something called Freshers' Week for their new students. It's a great opportunity to make new friends, join lots of clubs, and settle into university life.

However, having just left your family and all your friends, the prospect of meeting lots of strangers can make you feel nervous. Where do you start? Who should you make friends with? Which clubs should you join? Luckily, there will be thousands of others in the same boat as you. They are all worrying about their social life at university. Here are some top tips from past students on how to survive Freshers' Week:

**Blend in.** Make sure you are aware of British social habits. Keep a few snacks at hand for your housemates and friends.

**Be hospitable.** Sometimes cups of tea can give you a head start in making friends.

**Be sociable.** The more active you are, the more likely you'll be to meet new people. Keep your door open when you're in. That sends positive messages to your neighbors that you're friendly.

So with a bit of clever planning and motivation, Freshers' Week can be a great start to your university life.

### Answers

1 D 2 C 3 B