

# Chapter 1: Taking Off

## Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. List three ways in which you show your individualism.
  - My *style of clothes*. I like to be unique in what I wear.
  - I have a tattoo on my arm.
  - Sometimes I dye my hair.
2. What goals have you established for yourself this semester? In what way(s) will you attempt to accomplish these goals?

I would like to have perfect attendance this semester in all of my classes. I will accomplish this goal by making sure to always get to sleep on time so that I am ready to wake up in the morning.

3. Explain the relationship between the two independent clauses provided.

It was raining very hard; nevertheless, we went on a picnic.

This means that, logically, we would not go on the picnic because the weather was bad. However, we went on the picnic anyway.

4. What communities are you a part of at your school?

I am a part of the marching band.
5. Explain what the word distinctive means in this sentence. What could the person have smelled, and why?

The wonderful smell coming from the kitchen was so distinctive that I recognized it immediately.

This means that the smell was a very specialized smell. Perhaps the smell was from this person's traditional food, and he was surprised at smelling it.

6. Explain what the word context means in your own words. Why is understanding the context of a sentence important in understanding a new vocabulary word?

*Context means to understand the relationship of the things happening around something. In vocabulary, sometimes we can understand the meaning of a new word by the words around it. The context can give us a clue as to what the meaning of the word is.*

7. Are you interested in psychology? Why or why not?

*Yes. I think the study of the human mind is very complex and deep. Learning about how people react to situations gives us an insight into who we are as human beings.*

8. Explain the meaning of this sentence.

Our football team dominated the other team yesterday!

*One of the teams won the game easily and in convincing fashion. The game was probably never close.*

9. What helps you to concentrate on your homework?

*I like to be in my favorite coffee shop when I study. It is quiet and I can focus on my work quite effectively. Plus, I love the smell of coffee!*

10. What factors do you think about when deciding where to take your next vacation?

*I think about the cost of living in the place that I will visit. This helps me to know how much the vacation will cost. I also focus on how safe the place is for visitors. If it is not safe, I will think very carefully before going there.*

# Chapter 2: Speaking Out

## Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. What occupation do you hope to have in the future?

I would like to be an environmental engineer because I am interested in helping the world become a better place in the future.

2. Explain one unique part of your culture.

In my culture, the women all cover their hair in public. We do this because it is an important part of our religious beliefs, and we believe it shows modesty.

3. Is going to a psychologist to discuss problems accepted in your country? Why or why not?

Not really. Psychologists are not popular in my country. People believe that they (or their family) can help with any problem that can come up just as well as a doctor.

4. Use the word professional in a unique sentence of your own. NOTE: Do not copy a sentence from your dictionary/translator!

Someday, I would like to become a professional basketball player. This has been a dream of mine for 10 years!

5. What do you do to relax after a long day of studying English? How does this help you?

I like to listen to music or play a video game. This helps me escape the pressures of school and work and gives my mind a break.

6. In your opinion, does someone's income influence how much power he or she has in society? Explain.

Unfortunately, yes. It seems like the rich people are also the powerful people. This is because money usually plays a role in everything. Rich people get to influence many decisions because other people would like their support.

7. Explain the perfect environment for you if you are studying for a test.

*I like to softly listen to music (usually classical) and sit in my study lounge by the window. The brightness helps me to stay awake.*

8. Explain the sentence. Pay careful attention to the underlined word, and incorporate its meaning into your explanation.

*Mothers should keep constant watch on their young children.*

*This means that parents should always be looking at what their children are doing. This is because young children do not know to stay out of dangerous situations. As the parents, they are responsible for ALWAYS looking after their kids.*

9. Give three examples of inappropriate behavior in the classroom.

- Speaking my own language to my friends.*
- Not listening to my teacher's directions.*
- Receiving a call on my cell phone.*

10. What is your favorite topic to discuss? Why?

*I enjoying discussing sports because I have always enjoyed playing sports. Right now, I am on my university's soccer team.*

## Chapter 3: Working Out

### Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. Explain something that you really wanted to do/achieve but struck out trying.

*I wanted to live in Italy for a summer, but I was unable to find a job there, so I had to give up that dream.*

2. List three of your unique character traits.

- *I make people laugh.*
- *I am a good listener.*
- *I like to help other people.*

3. At what age do you believe people should be considered adults? Support your answer with 2–3 sentences of support.

*I think that 21 is a good age to consider someone an “adult.” At this age, you are almost out of college and beginning to look for a job. Also, at age 21, many people have started to become more mature. This is an important marker of becoming an adult.*

4. In 3–4 sentences, describe your idea of the perfect job.

*In my perfect job, I would be able to work outside most of the year. I would not have to sit in the same chair and same office for 9 hours every day. Also, I would have the freedom to work at home two or three days a week. This would help me feel more independent.*

5. What recent trend do you see in the world that makes you nervous? Explain.

*There is too much fighting in the world these days. The world needs to work together to create a peaceful place for everyone!*

6. Which answer choice best shows the percentage represented in the boldfaced part of the sentence?

**Approximately 1 out of 5** people agree with the decision.

- a. 20% (this is exact, not “approximately”)  
 b. 18–22% (because this is a close range around 20%, which is 1 out of 5)  
 c. 10–40% (this is too broad a range for “approximately”)
7. What are the benefits of a classroom that contains diverse cultures?

*I am able to get to know other cultures and make friends with someone who is much different than I am. Also, if I am studying a language, this will force me to use the target language, instead of reverting back to my own language.*

8. Explain a situation in which you might feel a great deal of stress.

*If I wait to write a paper until the night before it is due, I feel extremely stressed!*

9. Give an example of something that you should do annually. Explain.

*I think that all people should get their teeth cleaned at least once a year.*

10. On a scale of 1–10, circle which number represents the importance of the amount of income a job pays. What other factors will be important to you as you search for a job someday?

Not very  
important

Very  
important

1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — 6 — 7 — 8 — 9 — 10

Other important factors of a job:

*How challenging my job is.*

*Having good colleagues.*

# Chapter 4: Hitting the Books

## Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. List three of your academic goals for this year.
  - *get high grades in all my classes*
  - *study for 3 hours every day*
  - *join at least one study group*
2. Do you find the study of Economics to be interesting or boring? Circle one. Give reasons to support your opinion.

Interesting / Boring

*I like economics because I think that it is interesting studying how the world economy affects my country. Right now, we are having financial difficulties because of the weak American dollar.*

3. What type of physical activities do you enjoy? An example of a physical activity could be riding a bike or playing basketball.

*I like working out in the gym after a long day at school. This helps me relax and unwind!*

4. If you had to choose one item/situation/idea to research in the future, what would this be? (NOTE: The topic does not have to be academic in nature!) Why are you interested in this?

*I would like to research the effects of playing American football on the long-term health of an athlete. It seems like such a violent sport, I am curious as to how this affects someone as they get older.*

5. Name two classes that you are required to take for your major.

*Psychology 101—Introduction to Psychology*

*Economics 201—Microeconomics*

6. Describe your experience studying English prior to this class.

*In my home country, we were not encouraged to ask as many questions as we do in the U.S. I usually had to just sit in my class and take notes on what the teacher was saying. Then, we were required to take a test at the end of the year to measure our knowledge.*

7. Between which ranges of temperatures do you feel the most comfortable? Why?

*Between 55°F–70°F. I like this range of temperatures because it is not too hot and not too cold.*

8. Contrast the type of punishments used in schools in the past with those used today.

*In the past, schools used corporal punishment (physical punishment), but today they use “time outs” or other forms of non-violent punishment.*

9. What period of your life (childhood, middle school, high school, college, or another) has been the most difficult so far? Explain.

*Probably my high school days were the most difficult. During this time, I was not in the “cool” group, so I got picked on by some of the other kids. Also, I found the studying to be very difficult.*

10. Of which country are you a resident?

*The United States*

# Chapter 5: Earning a Living

## Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. What conclusion can you make from this statement?

He kept trying to call his girlfriend, but she was not answering her phone.

*She was taking a test. Or she was mad at him. Or she had her phone turned off.*

2. In what way(s) do you enjoy being creative?

*I enjoy playing my guitar and writing music.*

3. Complete this sentence:

After she graduated from college, she was finally able to \_\_\_\_\_.

*get the job she had always wanted!*

*take a break and travel to Europe.*

4. What benefits are there to studying English in a country where the native language is English? Explain.

*People around you are using English in their everyday lives. This gives you the opportunity to be exposed to the language in every aspect of your life. Also, you will be more likely to develop friendships with native speakers of English. This will be an amazing cultural experience. There is no better way to truly learn about American life than to be a part of it!*

5. What should you do if you detect the smell of smoke in the place that you live?

*Call 911, and get OUT of my (house/apartment/dorm).*

6. What mentality should you have when you start a new job? Explain.

I should have a *positive attitude about the job that I am beginning*. If I come into my new job with *negative thoughts or emotions*, it will affect my performance and attitude negatively.

7. Use the sentence connector *likewise* in a sentence(s) of your own.

Bill couldn't go to the birthday party *because he was studying for his chemistry test*. Likewise, Anne was not going to be able to make it either.

8. Give an example of how the world is becoming more globally focused. Explain.

Most countries are now focused on trading with places from around the globe. International business deals are in the news every day.

9. Write a statement that is obvious.

On a clear day, the sky is blue.

10. Give an example of an intense experience that you have had.

I once rode the fastest roller coaster in the world! It was so intense that I couldn't let go of the safety bar, even when the ride was over!

# Chapter 6: Getting Along

## Vocabulary. Words from the Academic Word List are underlined.

1. Briefly describe what you do on a normal day.

I usually *get up and have breakfast before I go to school. I have classes in the morning, and then I study in the library for a few hours. Then I work out before having dinner. I usually take some free time in the evenings, and then I go to bed around 11:00.*

2. In your opinion, what factors are important to maintaining a healthy relationship with someone that you love?

Trust in a relationship is very important to having a healthy relationship. If you *trust each other, there will be no feelings of jealousy, and you can be completely yourself with your girlfriend.*

3. How important is it to have diversity in a school? Explain.

It is one of the MOST important factors of a school! From *diversity we are able to learn things and see viewpoints that we would have never experienced with a group of our peers who are from the same area as we are.*

4. Describe your favorite instructor in high school. Why was he/she your favorite?

Mr. Jones. He was very funny and active in class. He always made us laugh, but he also respected us and treated us like adults.

5. What traditional values do your parents (or grandparents) hold? Explain.

My grandparents are a bit traditional. My grandfather was a farmer, and my grandmother was in charge of the children and home.

6. What are some positive factors to remaining single (not being married)?

*You can develop your own identity apart from someone else. You can also finish your schooling or devote yourself to a certain pastime or hobby more easily when you are single.*

7. How often are you in contact with your family? By what mechanism do you usually communicate with them?

*Twice a week. I usually do it by the phone or online chatting.*

8. In your opinion, what can be done to reverse the trend of the increasing divorce rate?

*People should be encouraged to get married when they are in their mid to late 20s (or older) instead of their early 20s. This would make people more realistic in their expectations. Also, the added maturity would be helpful in their marriage.*

9. Financial problems are often cited as the most common reason for divorce. Why do you think this is the case?

*This is because money problems are stressful and create an uncomfortable environment in the home. When you are always stressed about money every day, you don't have time to focus on your husband/wife.*

10. Describe a type of survey that you are familiar with. Explain what it is and what it may be trying to measure.

*The people at the electronics store where I bought my TV asked me to do an online survey about my buying experience at that store. I think they are trying to see how happy people are with their buying experience.*