

Speaking Comprehension Test for 8th Form Students

1. Holidays are important times of the year of families and friends to celebrate and be together.
 - What is your favorite holiday? How do you celebrate it? When your parents were children, how did they celebrate this holiday?
 - Besides a reason to relax and celebrate, why are holidays important? Why do people celebrate them?
 - Are there any holidays you can skip? Why? What is one holiday that you could never ignore? Why?
2. Many different languages are used around the world, even within a single country.
 - What other languages would you want to learn to speak and why?
 - How can language help connect people from different parts of the world?
 - How would the world be different if only one language was spoken throughout the world?
3. Some say that 'street smarts' are more important than 'book smarts'.
 - What are the most important lessons you've learned outside of school?
 - Do the lessons we need in life come mostly from school, or not?
 - What do you think it means to have a 'complete or well rounded' education?
4. Ukrainian students typically wear uniforms to school but not all children are happy about this.
 - Do you think schools should require students to wear uniforms?
 - Is there a way to wear a uniform and still be fashionable?
 - What image of yourself do you try to show through the clothes you wear?
5. Many people look back on their childhood fondly and remember a favorite toy.
 - What was your favorite childhood toy and why?
 - What are the characteristics of a good toy?
 - How do the toys of today compare to toys in the past?
6. Everyone likes to relax in different ways. Some people even have a special place that only they know about.
 - What special place do you like to go to for relaxation?
 - What does it look like?
 - What do you do there?
7. You want to cook your favorite dish tonight for dinner.
 - What is your favorite dish and what ingredients are found in your dish?
 - What equipment and utensils will you need to cook your dish?
 - What steps will you have to take to make the dish?
8. Describe the 'house of your dreams'.
 - What does your house look like?
 - What is your favorite room and what is in it?
 - Where in the world would your house be located?
9. A person you know is planning to visit your town or city.

- During what season would you recommend him or her to visit and why?
 - What do you think this person would like and dislike about spending time in your town or city? Why?
 - What areas of interest would you show her or him first?
10. Imagine you get to move into your own apartment.
- What five things would you put in your apartment?
 - Do you think you would keep your apartment clean or messy? Why?
 - Would you invite anyone to live with you or would you stay there alone? Why?
11. “Traveling is no longer necessary because modern technology has made it possible to learn about the rest of the world from computers and televisions.”
- Do you agree with this statement?
 - Why do people like traveling?
 - Do you think foreigners could really understand Ukrainian life and culture without visiting Ukraine? Explain.
12. People are often interested in foreign people and cultures. Which foreign culture do you find most interesting?
- Which tradition from that culture would you like to experience?
 - How has the classical understanding of that culture evolved over time?
 - What are the advantages and disadvantages of accepting foreign traditions into your own culture?
13. Imagine that you are a newspaper reporter. You have the opportunity to interview any person in the world.
- Who would you choose to interview?
 - How has this person influenced people’s lives?
 - What three questions would you ask first?
14. Many people think that our parents greatly influence our personalities
- Which personality traits do you share with your mother and father?
 - What makes you different from them?
 - Who has had more of an impact on you, your mother or your father? Explain.
15. If you could learn any language besides Ukrainian, Russian, or English, what would it be?
- What are your reasons?
 - Do you have any personal experience of being in a country and wishing you had known the language? What would the difference have been if you knew the language?
 - What opportunities would it create for you?
16. How important is it for young people to have good role models?
- Who do you think is a good role model for young people in your country? Why?
 - What would you most like to be admired for?
 - What characteristics define a good role model for you?
17. Supermarkets are becoming more widespread and popular in the modern world, while traditional markets are becoming less common.
- Where do you (your family) do most food shopping?
 - What advantages and disadvantages do you see with modern supermarkets?
 - Do you think that traditional markets will disappear? Why or why not?

18. Teaching is an almost universal profession. In some countries, such as Ukraine, there are even holidays dedicated to celebrating teachers.

- Who is your favorite teacher? Why?
- What, do you think, makes a good teacher?
- How much responsibility does the teacher have for the success of his or her students?

19. Many people think that our parents greatly influence our personalities

- Which personality traits do you share with your mother and father?
- What makes you different from them?
- Who has had more of an impact on you, your mother or your father? Explain.

20. Your best friend is having a birthday soon. You are going to plan a surprise party.

- How would you surprise your friend?
- Describe the party's theme and decorations?
- What kinds of food and entertainment will you prepare? Why?