

I/1**Ordering a Meal**

- Good evening! Can we have a table for two?
- Certainly. Take a seat by the fireplace.
- What would you like to drink?
- I'll have a glass of wine and my wife will have still mineral water.
- Are you ready to order?
- Yes. Can I have a broccoli cream soup, please?
- Sure.
- And a salad for my wife. For the main course we'll have beef with mashed potato, please.
- Thank you.
- Would you care for some dessert or coffee?
- Can I have a cappuccino? And some ice-cream for my wife.
- Sure.
- Can we have the bill, please?
- Certainly. How would you like to pay?
- By credit card. Is service included?
- Yes, it is.
- It is \$23.
- Here is my card.
- Thank you.

I/2**My Life in Georgia**

I arrived in Young Harris, Georgia about a week ago. I live in a wooden house in the forest. My host family is very kind. The father is a potter and the mother is a teacher. There are two children in the family. Darcy is 19. Evan is my age. We go to the same school together. The family has three dogs, and a cat, but around the house you can find all sorts of animals, for example, turtles or even snakes. The school is very good. My classmates are very interesting people. They ask me a lot of questions about Hungary. I have the same lessons every day. That's quite strange. I take Chemistry, American History, Math, Literature, P.E. and French. Yes, I started to take French as the school does not have German. After school we go to the local swimming pool, and play basketball or football. My life is so exciting now. The family has asked me where I would like to go for the spring holiday. I've chosen the capital city, Washington D.C. I am looking forward to seeing the White House.

II/1.**At the Shop**

- Good afternoon.
- Good afternoon. How may I help you?
- I'm looking for some trousers for the winter.
- What size?
- I think 34.
- Let me see. We have a nice pair of trousers.
- What colour?
- Black and green.
- I'll try on the green. Where can I change?
- The changing rooms are in the corner.

- I think I'll take these trousers. They fit me perfectly.
- Very good. Anything else?
- Can you show me a pair of gloves?
- Certainly. We have a lot of different types. I would recommend our leather gloves. They are straight from Italy and we are offering them at a half price.
- Let me take a look.
- Here you are.
- Oh, they are really beautiful. I think I'll take 4 pairs. One for myself, one for my husband and two for my children. How much are they?
- The gloves and the trousers are £21.
- What a bargain! Can I pay by credit card?
- Only in cash.
- No problem. Here you are.
- Thank you. Good bye.
- See you.

II/2.**My Winter Holiday**

For my winter holiday I'm going skiing in Austria. I'm going with my classmates by bus. We are leaving early in the morning the day after Christmas. We are going to stay in a hotel near the slopes. I love the mountains. This is going to be my fifth time there. I was there in the summer too. I went mountaineering with my girlfriend. It was also fantastic. Now back to skiing, we are planning to ski every day from 9 to 4. In the evening we are going to have parties, play board games, watch some films, or just talk to each other. My mother told me to be very careful because skiing is a dangerous sport. That is why she bought me a helmet for Christmas. It was a good present, and now I have all the ski equipment I need.

III/1.**Picture**

I got a nice old painting for my birthday. In the picture we can see a family celebrating Christmas. I think it is a British family, because I can see some stockings hanging from the fireplace. There are two little children playing in front of the Christmas tree. One of them is a baby, so he can't walk. They are enjoying their new toys. The older one, who is about 5, is playing with the puzzle. The baby has a teddy bear in his hands. The rest of the family is watching them play. There are three adults, the mother, the father and the grandmother. The grandma is sitting in an armchair, while the parents are standing. They are holding a glass of champagne in their hands. The family's dog is lying in front of the fireplace. There are a lot of presents under the tree, so the children haven't opened all of them. On the left I can see a nicely laid table. I think the family will have lunch after opening the presents. I really love this painting. I'll hang it over my bed.

III/2.**What Happened at School Today?**

- What happened at school today, son?
- A lot of very good things. Well, first of all, Mrs. Beasley was ill so we didn't have Geography in the first period.
- What did you do instead?
- We went out to play football. Then in English we watched a documentary about the life of Shakespeare.
- Was it good?
- It was OK. The third period was a bit boring, but Jason made us laugh.
- What did he do?
- He was writing a message on his mobile phone when the teacher asked him something. He didn't know the answer, and tried to say something when his phone started to ring. He was so embarrassed.
- What about P.E.?
- Oh, it was really good. The P.E. teacher wanted us to run two laps around the school, but it was Joe's birthday, so he asked him to let us play football instead. I scored three goals and played really well.
- How was the Chemistry test?
- Oh, it was funny. The teacher forgot to bring the tests. So we will take it next week.

IV/1.**Leaving a Message**

Hi Liz! A shame I couldn't get hold of you. How are you and Jack? Does he still work for that multinational company? My husband has left his company. Now he works in the corner shop from 9 to 5 every day. How are the little ones? I bet they have grown a lot since the last time I saw them. Does little Jack like kindergarten? My children are so big. Dan is 10 and he loves to play hockey. He trains four times a week. Jill is already in high school. She has a boyfriend, so she doesn't spend much time at home. You know how it goes. The boy has a car and they drive around town a lot. She sings in the school choir. Guess where we are going after Christmas. We are going to spend a week in Florida. I'm so excited. The children want to go to Disneyworld and to the Kennedy Space Center. We will spend some time on the beach, too. It is going to be so good spending the winter in the sun. I'll call you later.

IV/2.**Job Interview**

- Good morning.
- Good morning. Can you tell me about your education?
- Of course. I went to secondary school in Liverpool. I studied French there for 6 years. I was also an exchange student in France for one year. I lived there with a French family.
- What about university?
- I studied abroad. I went to the Sorbonne in Paris for 4 years. I have a degree from there.
- What about work experience?
- After university I worked in Switzerland for 3 years. I worked in a school where I taught French literature.
- Why did you leave Switzerland?
- I missed England and wanted to come home after so many years. So I started working in Birmingham in 1999. I still work there in a secondary school.
- Why would you like to join our company?
- I think it would give me a great opportunity to use my French. Also I could travel again.
- Any family?
- I am married with two children.
- We'll inform you of our decision.
- Thank you very much.
- Thank you.

V/1.**Hobbies**

- What are your hobbies, Dave?
- I like reading a lot. Now I'm reading a good novel by Steinbeck. It is very interesting. What about you Andy?
- I like reading too, but my favourite hobby is dancing. I go dancing three times a week. My boyfriend is my partner, so it is even better. He is an excellent dancer.
- I can't dance. I tried it at a ball last spring, but I was very bad at it. However, I love watching old films. I have more than 200 DVDs at home. My favourite is Casablanca.
- Oh yes. I remember. This is the beginning of a beautiful friendship. That's the most famous line, isn't it?
- It certainly is. Do you like old films?
- Some. But to tell the truth, I prefer science-fiction films like Star Wars. I have seen the all six episodes more than ten times. I'm a big fan.
- How about sports?
- I don't play any, but I love watching basketball on TV. And you Dave?
- I play a lot of sports just for fun. Twice a week, I play tennis with my colleagues. I also go skiing every winter. And summers are a lot of fun as well. I go sailing and surfing quite often.
- Sounds exciting.
- It is.

V/2.**Housing**

I live in a family house not far from the city centre. The neighbourhood is very quiet, and there are very few cars around. The house has a huge garden, where my son plays a lot. Downstairs we have a bedroom, a living room, a kitchen and a bathroom. The walls of the bedroom are green. There is a bed and some wardrobes there. In the bathroom you can find a shower and a toilet. My favourite place is the kitchen, where I cook a lot for my husband. Upstairs there are two bedrooms and a bathroom. One room is for my son. He has a lot of toys and books on the shelves. The other bedroom is for guests. There you can find a bed and two bedside tables. In the basement we have the garage, the laundry room and my husband's study. In the study he teaches English to his private students.

VI/1.**Let's Go Out Tonight**

- Hi Vick, it's been a long time since we saw each other. What's up?
- Hi Sue. It's good to see you again. I'm very busy, I have a lot to do. I work ten to twelve hours almost every day. Last week I was in Paris on business.
- It sounds exciting. Don't you want to have a break and go out tonight?
- Why not? Where are we going? And with whom?
- Do you remember my ex-classmates, Peter and Margaret? They have invited me to the new Hungarian restaurant in town. It has a very good reputation. You can taste all the Hungarian specialities. My favourite dish is Paprika Chicken.
- Great. I've always wanted to try that.
- It's delicious. After dinner we're planning to go to a disco. We like it, because you can dance to the best songs of the 1980s.
- I haven't been dancing for ages. I'm looking forward to it. What time shall we meet?
- Let's meet in front of the restaurant at 7 p.m.
- OK, I'll be there. See you.
- See you.

VI/2.**Daily Routine**

Usually I get up early in the morning. My alarm clock wakes me up at around five A.M. My day starts with some activity, because I go for a run every morning. It's already 6.20. when I get home, I have a quick breakfast, I drink my coffee then I leave home at 8.00 sharp. I mustn't be late for work, so I always go by underground. It would be a crazy idea to go by car and sit in a traffic jam for a long time. I start at 8.45 and finish at 5 P.M. Meanwhile I have two breaks – a coffee break at half past ten and my lunch-break at 12.30. After lunch, at a quarter to two in the afternoon. I always meet my boss, and we talk about the new plans for the company. After work I do the shopping, meet my friends, go for a spin in the car or visit my parents and my brother's family. I never get home before 7.30. P.M. I don't want to put on weight, so I rarely have dinner. I go to the bathroom, relax in the bath tub, then I watch a film or I chat with my distant relatives and friends on msn before I go to bed.

VII/1

Booking a Hotel Room

- Good afternoon. Can I help you?
- Yes, please. I would like to book a single room for three nights. How much does it cost?
- It's \$ 63 per night.
- Great. Can I pay by credit card or is only cash accepted?
- You can pay either way. We take MasterCard and Visa.
- OK, then I would like to book the room.
- Could you fill in this form, please?
- Sure. Do you need my name and my passport number?
- Of course, and we also need your address and your phone number.
- OK, here you are. I have one more question. What does the price include?
- It includes accommodation, breakfast, either lunch or dinner, and the use of our swimming-pool.
- It sounds good.
- Here is your key. Your room number is 273 on the second floor.
- Thank you.
- If you need anything, you will find me here. Have a good stay.

VII/2**My Family**

My name is Hannah. I'm 29 and I'm married. My husband and I met at a New Year's Party 10 years ago. It was love at first sight. We got married in 2007 and our son was born in April 2009. His name is Milan and he makes my life wonderful. We play and laugh together a lot. My husband is an engineer, so he has to work eight hours every day. Unfortunately, he gets home late, because he couldn't find a job in our town and he has to commute.

My parents live near us, so they can visit their grandchild very often. Milan loves my parents so they can look after him when I have to arrange something in the city centre or my husband and I would like to go out.

At weekends we meet our friends who also have a baby, go for a walk by the lake or relax in the living room and play with our baby.

I think that my life is happy and perfect.

VIII/1.**At the Doctor's**

- Good morning Dr. House.
- Good morning. Please have a seat here. What's the problem?
- I have a terrible stomach ache.
- Have you eaten something that you usually don't eat or have you eaten too much?
- I think the first one. Last night I had some goose liver for dinner.
- Do you have any other symptoms?
- I do. I feel sick and sometimes I feel dizzy.
- When did the symptoms start?
- About three or four hours ago.
- Please strip to the waist and lie down here. I will press your stomach here. Does it hurt?
- Not really.
- And here?
- Ouch.
- OK, don't worry. It is really because you ate that goose liver. You probably had too much of it. You should not eat anything today and you should drink only water.
- Thank you for your help. Bye.
- Get better soon. Bye.

VIII/2.**A Memorable Journey**

I flew to London two years ago. One of my best friends, David, lives there and he invited me to spend some days in the rainy capital city. The flight took two hours and our plane landed at Gatwick Airport. As the city centre is far from the airport, you have to catch a train. Don't leave your international student card at home, because you can save a lot of money if you buy student tickets everywhere. David showed me the most popular sights – on the first day I tried the London Eye, I saw Westminster Abbey, we went into St. Paul's Cathedral, where Lady Diana and Charles got married, and we visited Hyde Park, where I could feed the squirrels. At the end of my visit, David took me to the official shop at Buckingham Palace, where I bought some souvenirs, which will remind me of this exciting city forever.

IX/1.**At the Post Office**

- Good morning. May I help you?
- Good morning. First of all, I would like to buy some stamps. I have to send five letters to the capital city.
- You need a two-dollar stamp for the capital. Five stamps will be \$10, please.
- Here you are. Oh, I've almost forgotten. I would like to send this package to Italy.
- Sure. It weighs 12 pounds.
- OK. When will the package arrive in Italy?
- It depends on the service. I can offer our International Express Mail. The package will arrive there in three business days. It's fast and reliable.
- I really like this option.
- Then you have to fill in this form.
- All right.
- That'll be \$30, please.
- Can I pay by credit card?
- Sure.
- Ok. Thanks. Bye.
- Bye.

IX/2.**Last Weekend**

My name is Emma and I had my 30th birthday last weekend. I always celebrate my birthdays together with my mum. We meet early in the morning and we travel somewhere in the country. This year we were at the thermal baths in Cheltenham. We got there early and first of all we went to the sauna world. We love saunas and in Cheltenham you can find a traditional Finnish sauna. Saunas help me relax from my stressful life. We went to the massage rooms from the sauna world, because my mother wanted to try the so-called honey massage. While she was lying on the bed, I also found an interesting sport massage for myself. It took about 30 minutes and it was very intensive. There is a self-service restaurant at the baths, so we had lunch there.

After lunch we went to the beauty salon. Who doesn't want to be beautiful on her birthday?

We got home at 8 o'clock in the evening. And just imagine! My family and my friends had organized a huge birthday party for me. What a surprise! I got a lot of presents, a chocolate cake and my boyfriend asked me to be his wife. It was the best day of my life.

X/1.**At a Language School**

- Hello.
- Hello. Can I help you?
- Sure. I have read about your English courses and I would like to take part in an intensive course, if it's possible.
- Sure. Our next intensive course starts on Monday.
- Could you give me some more details?
- The course takes three weeks. There're five lessons a day and each lesson is 45 minutes long. You will have two teachers. One of them teaches only grammar, she explains the rules, and you can communicate with her in Hungarian. The other teacher is a native speaker. His name is Danny Stone and he's from the United States.
- I see. How many people are there in a group?
- There is a minimum of three students but not more than seven.
- How much does it cost?
- It's 170 euros. Maybe it's a bit expensive, but intensive English is a quick and easy way to improve your knowledge.
- I agree, and I would like to book my English course now.
- OK, then you have to fill in this form.
- Sure.
- Thank you. If it's not a secret, where did you hear about us?
- Yesterday I read an article about you in the local newspaper.
- OK. Thanks. See you Monday.
- See you.

X/2.**My City**

I have always wanted to live in New York, and my dream will come true because I'm moving there next month. Why do I want to live there? It's the centre of the universe, where I can find many cultural events, and I'm never bored. If I want to go to the theatre, I can choose from a wide range of Broadway theatre productions with the best actors and actresses. There are many sports facilities in the city. If I want to be alone, I can go for a run in Central Park. If I want to buy some new clothes, I can find the latest fashions on Fifth and Madison Avenues. Madison Avenue is also called the "fashionable road" because you can buy anything there. I also love Times Square. I think it's one of New York's symbols. There are neon and digital advertisements everywhere. It's a very interesting city, isn't it? When do you want to visit me?

XI/1.**Cinema**

- Hi John. Do you feel like going to the cinema tonight?
- Well, it depends on what's on.
- I've already checked it, and a new action movie starring Tom Cruise is playing.
- I love him. I think he was the best in *The Firm*, although I liked the book better.
- I haven't read it, but I've heard it is very good. So are you coming?
- Of course. What time is it on?
- It starts at 8:30.
- It sounds good. Do you want to have dinner before that?
- Sure. Let's have a pizza at Gino's.
- Ok. I'll pick you up in front of your house at 6 o'clock. Are you coming alone or are you bringing your brother?
- I was going to ask you the same. If you bring your sister, I'll bring my brother.
- I know that my sister hates Tom Cruise and wouldn't like to come.
- Well, that leaves only the two of us. Do you have any plans after the cinema?
- Actually, I was thinking of going down to the seashore. It is so beautiful at night. Luckily, there are only a few people.
- It's a good idea. But don't forget to bring a pullover. It might get chilly late at night.
- Ok. See you at six.
- Bye.

XI/2.**Problems**

"We are running out of money," Dad said. "I must find a second job." Mom was a teacher. Dad was a teacher. They had four children. The baby had a rare disease. She was always sick. They had to take her to the doctor often. The doctor was expensive. But he took good care of the baby. He said she would be healthy in a few years. But Dad owed the doctor a lot of money. He looked in the paper for another job. He asked his friends about another job. Finally he found one. He became a taxi driver. When the school day ended, he ate dinner. He had no time to speak with the rest of the family. His wife was a very patient woman and did not complain about her husband having two jobs. After dinner he went to the taxi company. He drove a taxi on the airport route. He picked up people at the airport. He dropped off people at the airport. Some people gave him big tips. Some people gave him small tips. Some people gave him no tips. He drove the taxi for eight hours. Then he went home. He was tired. He went straight to sleep. Every night he had a dream. Every night it was the same dream. Every night he dreamt about money. Every night the money was on fire.

XII/1**A Flight**

- Excuse me. You look very scared. What's the problem?
- Oh, this is my first time on a plane. I'm very nervous.
- You shouldn't be. Although it is easy to say this, because I remember the first time I flew. I was very nervous.
- Well, it is good that you are talking to me, as I am starting to feel better now. Why are you flying to New York?
- Actually, I am going to Cleveland, Ohio. My brother lives there. I have to change in New York.
- That's interesting. I'm also flying to Cleveland. I also have relatives there. Have been there before?
- Yes, this is my fifth time.
- Wow.
- Don't you want to sit next to the window, so that you can see where we are flying.
- That's very kind of you. In fact, I wanted to have a window-seat, but they couldn't give me one.
- No problem. Let's switch before the plane takes off.
- Ok. How long are going to be in Cleveland?
- A whole month. And you?
- 3 weeks.
- Well then, you will have plenty of time to visit all the famous sights in the area.
- Yes, I will.
- Good. Look, we have to listen to the flight attendant now, as she is giving the safety instructions.

XII/2**Mother's Day**

Mother's Day is observed in the United States in honour of mothers on the second Sunday in May. In 1907, Anna Jarvis proposed a day to remember all mothers. Today, Mother's Day is a holiday to honour mothers with cards, flowers and presents. Many people in the U.S. celebrate "el cinco de mayo". This means the 5th of May in Spanish. This holiday celebrates a battle won by Mexicans against the French. In some areas of the U.S., there are parades on this day. Many people eat Mexican food and listen to Mexican music. The last Monday in May is Memorial Day. Since 1868, this federal holiday has honoured the Civil War soldiers who died. Now, we remember all soldiers who died for the country. People go to the cemetery to decorate soldiers' graves. Many people also decorate the graves of their families.

XIII/1.**Cleaning**

- When was the last time you cleaned your room?
- Probably a week ago.
- I don't believe you. The shelves are very dusty, your bed is untidy, and this smell...urgh!
- I hate cleaning my room. Why can't we just divide the household chores in a fair way?
- What do you mean?
- I mean, I like vacuuming, mopping the floor and watering the plants. I would do these, and you can do the rest.
- Be honest! Have you ever mopped the floor?
- No, I know I would like it.
- You are so funny.
- So why do you think it would work like this?
- Well, you mentioned a fair division, but I don't find it fair. I would have to do a lot more. And to tell the truth, I hate washing the dishes.
- Me too. Let's buy a dishwasher.
- And let's hire a maid, sure. Any more bright ideas?
- You know what. Since we both hate the dishes, we should have dish-days.
- Dish what?
- Dish-days. It means that on one day you do the dishes, on the next it's my turn.
- The first good idea of the day.
- OK. I'll clean my room now. You're right. It's in an awful mess.
- Thank you.

XIII/2.**Fishing Trip**

Dave needed to pack for Saturday's fishing trip. He went to his closet, where he had more than 20 rods and reels. Nowadays he goes fishing twice a year at Big Bear, a huge lake in southern California. Packing was a project in itself. Dave even created a computer file named Fishing Trip. It was a checklist of 45 things to take to Big Bear. He took a hooded sweatshirt, jeans, two pair of socks, a heavy hooded denim jacket, winter gloves, and a scarf. He also took flip-flops, shorts, a T-shirt, factor 30 sun block, sunglasses, a big hat, and a lightweight raincoat. If you go to Big Bear in June, you'd better be prepared for hot or cold, rain or shine. He packed a couple of magazines to read just in case the fish weren't biting. He and his friends joked that the fish were always biting – in the spot you'd just left or the spot you were headed to. After about an hour and a half, Dave gathered all the items on his list into a nice pile next to his door. He went to bed knowing that tomorrow's weather and fishing were unpredictable, but the good time with his friends was a given.

XIV/1.**At the Book Shop**

- May I help you?
- I'm actually looking for several books. One for my son's 7th birthday. Another one for my wife. I also need to buy a book for my mother because she's bedridden, and she enjoys reading. And finally one for myself. That's four altogether.
- Sounds good. What kind of books does your son like?
- Well, he is really into football these days.
- I think I have the perfect book for him. We have a very good biography of Lionel Messi, the best player in the world.
- Sounds fantastic.
- What about your wife?
- She loves fiction, especially American authors.
- Has she read East of Eden by John Steinbeck?
- I don't think so. Is it a good book?
- One of the best.
- OK, then. For my mother it is easy to choose something romantic. Just give me the latest best-seller.
- OK. And for you, sir?
- See that's the hardest part. I am learning English at the moment and I would like to buy a shortened version of a novel.
- That's easy, actually. We have a whole collection of books like that. What level?
- Upper-intermediate.
- I think Ken Kesey's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest will be the book that I'd recommend.
- Is that the one with Jack Nicholson starring in the movie?
- Exactly.
- Perfect. I'll buy all four.
- Here you are.
- How much is all that?
- \$37.36.
- Here's my card.
- Thank you.

XIV/2.**A Lucky Day**

Today was her lucky day. She was late for the bus. But the bus was late, too. So she didn't miss her bus. She was late for work. But her boss was late, too. So her boss didn't know that she was late. She didn't have any cash for lunch. But her friend had a two-for-one lunch coupon. So she got a free lunch. Her boss was feeling a little sick. He told everyone to take the afternoon off. She went to the park. A green piece of paper was under the park bench. She picked it up. It was a \$5 bill. She looked around. Where did the money come from? There was no one around. She was the only one in the park. There were some birds and squirrels in the park. But this was not their money. This was her money. It was her lucky money. She went across the street to the liquor store. The lottery jackpot was worth \$10 million. She bought five lottery tickets. She knew that one of them would be lucky. This was her lucky day.

XV/1.**Christmas Rush**

- I hate the Christmas rush.
- Me too. That's why I always do the shopping in October. This way you can avoid the rush.
- You're smart. But I have to do it in the next two days. And this is the busiest time.
- What do you want to buy? I may be able to help you.
- I was thinking of buying a good DVD for my sister, some perfume for my mother, and a theatre ticket for my parents.
- That's easy.
- What do mean?
- You don't even have to leave your room to buy these presents.
- I still don't know what you mean.
- Well, you have a computer, don't you?
- Of course.
- You can buy everything online. It's all just a click away.
- Isn't that dangerous?
- Why would it be?
- My credit card number can be stolen.
- You can pay on delivery. That is when the package arrives. There is no risk. I've been doing that for years now. I always buy tickets, books, CDs and perfume online. Do you want me to show you some websites that I use?
- I'd appreciate it. Can we do it right away?
- Sure. I would recommend...

XV/2.**New York City's Workers**

New York City has thousands of workers. It has workers that you don't see. It has workers that you do see. The workers that you do see are right on the street. Street vendors are everywhere. Vendors set up on the wide sidewalks. They sell purses. They sell sunglasses and boxes of perfume. They sell wallets. They sell books and DVDs. Food vendors are everywhere. Many of them have four-wheeled silver carts. The carts have blue and yellow umbrellas that say "Sabrett." The vendors sell food and drinks. They sell hot dogs and hot sausages. They sell meat on a stick. They sell huge soft pretzels. Some vendors sell only nuts. Others sell only produce. Artists sit on the sidewalks. They'll draw your portrait. They'll draw you a funny face or an artistic face. Newspaper vendors stand on corners. They'll sell you the latest New York Times or Daily News. Some men are wearing bright yellow shirts that say "City Sights NY." They sell tickets for double-decker buses that go around the city daily. Riders can hop on and hop off when and where they want. Men in white shirts push blue trash cans on wheels. The men sweep up all the trash on the pavement. A security guard stands in a small city park. He wears a blue shirt and black pants. He is friendly and helpful. Cab drivers are everywhere. They drive their yellow cabs all over the city. Day and night, thousands of New Yorkers hail the cab drivers. They drive quickly but safely.

XVI/1.**Exchange Student**

- Hello. You must be Emma from Ireland.
- Yes, I am. And you must be Mr Hutchinson. How did you recognize me?
- It was easy. Your glowing red hair gave you away.
- Oh.
- Let me take your suitcases. So you're going to stay with us for a semester.
- Yes, and I'm very excited.
- Me too. My family just can't wait to get to know you.
- Is the weather always so hot?
- Or even hotter. You know Atlanta is one of the hottest cities in the south. But don't worry. We live about two hours from the city, up in the mountains. It's a bit cooler there.
- Good. What about the school?
- You will attend 10th grade with my son. It is a private school with a lot of good teachers. There are also a lot of sports you can choose from.
- Well, I love swimming, but I don't suppose the school has a swimming pool.
- It sure does. We have one of the best swimming teams in the state.
- It sounds good to me. What about the rest of the family?
- My wife is a nurse in the hospital nearby, and I run a small business just down the road. Our daughter is still in kindergarten. She is very cute, you'll like her. By the way, do you like animals?
- I love them.
- Because our two cats are also part of the family. They like guests. But you will be part of our family, so they will love you even more.
- I'm looking forward to seeing them all.

XVI/2.**Moving From LA**

"I'm moving to New York," she said. "Will you come with me or not?" She loved New York. She loved the subways. She loved the buses. She could walk or take a taxi anywhere. She didn't have to drive anywhere. No more driving, like in Los Angeles. She hated driving in Los Angeles. New York has tall buildings. It has busy streets and sidewalks. It has Broadway. It has Times Square. It has Central Park. It has Wall Street. It has restaurants on every block. It has delivery people. "You can buy anything, and they will deliver it in 20 minutes," she said. "You will have problems in New York," he said. He told her she would freeze in the winter. She would bake in the summer. New York was too expensive. It was too crowded. It was a target for terrorists. They would blow up the whole city. It was noisy. It was dirty and dangerous. "Are you coming or not?" she asked again. "Of course I'm coming," he answered. "Why wouldn't I?"

XVII/1.**Studying English**

- Good morning. How can I help you?
- Good morning. I've read your advertisement in the local paper about the possibility of studying English in Britain in the summer. Can you give me some information about it?
- Certainly. First of all, I have to mention that our study-and-live programmes are the most popular. You spend 8 weeks in a small town just south of London. You live with a family, and during the day you go to school.
- How many lessons are there?
- 4 lessons a day.
- It sounds good. Where are the others from?
- From all over the world. Most of the students are from Europe, but we've had some from Asia, and a couple of students from Africa.
- Do I get to choose my host family?
- Unfortunately not. The families choose the students. Some families even host 3 or 4 students at the same time.
- And how much does it all cost?
- £1,199.
- Does it include everything?
- It doesn't include the air fare and the optional programmes.
- Thank you for your information. I'll have to think about it.
- Certainly. The deadline for the applications is the end of April.
- Thank you. Good bye.
- Bye.

XVII/2.**Shopping on the Internet**

Shopping on the Internet is becoming more and more popular. More and more people are using the Internet to buy things. Why do people use the Internet to shop? Some people say it is more comfortable. They don't have to leave their homes to order something, and they can shop for anything they want at any time, day or night. Still other people say they can find better prices on the Internet. If you want to buy something on the Internet, you need a credit card. You have to type your credit card number and information on the website and send it to the store over the Internet. You have to be sure that the store will not use your information in the wrong way. You don't want someone to get your credit card number and charge something to your account. Of course, you always have to be careful with your credit card number, because people sometimes steal credit card numbers from stores and restaurants, too. For people who are too nervous to shop on-line, the Internet is a good place to go window-shopping. Window-shopping is when you go to a store and look at the things for sale, but don't plan to buy anything. Window-shopping is easy on the Internet. You can see what kinds of products are available and how much they cost. You can visit stores with branches near you, or you can visit stores that are only on the Internet.

XVIII/1**Summer Holiday**

- (On the phone) Good morning Mrs Cochran.
- Good morning. What's the matter?
- Nothing really. My son is going to a summer camp in the United States, and I'm calling you to ask for some advice as I've heard your son went to one last year.
- Oh yes. Well, there is nothing to be afraid of. My son loved every minute of it. Where is your son going?
- To Ohio.
- That's where my son went. Is it a camp for catholic students?
- Yes, that's the one. So your son went to the same camp.
- Yes, he did.
- What was his impression?
- He liked it from the first second he arrived there. He made some very good friends.
- What about the responsibilities?
- He had to look after the children for only 8 hours a day. Sometimes mornings, sometimes afternoons. And you know the good thing is that he was able to practise his English. After he came home, he passed the intermediate exam. It was a much better investment than a private tutor.
- I bet it was. What about travelling? My son tells me that he wants to stay an extra 2 weeks to travel a bit.
- My son did exactly the same thing.
- Where did he go?
- He went to Niagara Falls, which he enjoyed the most. He also visited Boston and New York.
- How did he travel?
- By bus.
- Wasn't it dangerous? People hear so many things about travelling by bus in the USA.
- No, don't worry. He'll be fine.
- Thank you very much.
- Not at all.

XVIII/2**First Week at the University**

Let me tell you about my first week at the University. I get up at 6:00 every morning. That is really early for me. I usually eat breakfast in the school cafeteria. The food here is good. I have a German class every morning at 7:30. After German class I have Business and Economics on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 10:00. I have a lot of homework in that class but I really like it. I also have English Composition on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Tuesday and Thursdays I have American History.

The campus here is really big. The first day I was lost. I did not know where to find anything. Now I know where all the buildings are and I know where my classrooms are. My dormitory is close so I walk to all my classes. It's only about ten minutes.

My roommate's name is Eric. He is from Los Angeles. We get along well. He is quiet and doesn't make a lot of noise. Sometimes Eric and I have dinner together.

During the evening I study. Sometimes I study in the library and sometimes in the dormitory. I have to write three reports this semester so I have to read some books in the library. I usually go to bed at around eleven.

XIX/1.**What Shall We Do Tonight?**

- Hi Jane. Do you feel like coming to a football match tonight?
- Hi. Who else is coming?
- Just the two of us.
- Hm, it sounds good. What time is the game?
- They kick off at 8 o'clock.
- And who is playing?
- It is my team, Arsenal, playing against Liverpool. It's supposed to be a good match.
- I hope we won't have to travel all the way to Liverpool to watch the game.
- Don't worry. My team is the home team.
- What about the tickets? How much are they?
- Don't worry about the tickets. I'll invite you.
- Oh, you shouldn't do that.
- Just relax. Do you want to do something else after the match?
- I don't know. Do you have anything in mind?
- I was thinking that we can go to this new Thai restaurant in Soho. It opened a few weeks ago. It is said to be a very good one. Do you like Thai food?
- Indeed. Let's do that. Let's meet at the Tube station across the road at 7.
- All right. See you then.
- Bye.

XIX/2.**Chat In the Waiting Room**

Nicolas was sitting in the waiting room Monday morning. He brought four magazines with him, in case the mechanics had to spend all day fixing his car. His portable Sony radio was on, and one ear piece was stuck in his right ear. A customer came into the waiting room. Nicolas overheard the customer talking to Harold, the service representative. The customer was from Milford, the same little town that Nicolas was from. After the customer and Harold had finished talking, Harold went outside again. Nicolas thought he would introduce himself. He said, "I heard that you are from Milford." The young man nodded. "Are you going to the parade on Wednesday?" Nicolas asked. "What parade?" the man asked. Wednesday was the fourth of July. Nicolas wondered if he was talking to someone who just happened to be visiting Earth on his way to Pluto. "Didn't you say you live in Milford?" Nicolas asked. The man nodded. "How long have you lived there?" Nicolas asked. Five years, the man replied. "And you've never been to the Fourth of July parade?" Nicolas asked. The man shook his head. He seemed totally uninterested in continuing the conversation, although all he was doing was watching cars drive by on the nearby street. Oh well, I tried to be neighbourly, Nicolas thought, as he put the ear piece back in his ear and opened one of his magazines.

XX/1.**Good bye**

- Good morning Mrs Hood. How are you today?
- I've come to say good bye.
- Why? Where are you going?
- We are moving to the capital. My husband, Robin, got a very good job there.
- I'm happy for your husband, but I'm sad that you are leaving us. I bet my kids will be very unhappy too. They love your daughter.
- I know. It will be especially hard for her. You know, she just started school a year ago. She finally got to like it, and now we are moving. And I'll also miss the peace and quiet of this little town.
- Do you know where you are going to live there?
- Not yet. First, we are moving into an apartment until we find a new house. I definitely want to live in the suburbs.
- And have you found a job yet?
- My husband's company will help me get a new job. It won't be hard, as hospitals everywhere are short of doctors. I'll certainly find a new job.
- I hope we will see you again.
- Me too.
- Well, keep in touch.
- Ok. Good bye.
- Bye. Take care.

XX/2.**Flu**

Influenza, or flu, attacks up to one billion people annually. In the US, it kills 20,000 every year, most of whom are children or the elderly. Occasionally flu becomes pandemic: in 1918, it killed 20 million people worldwide. Flu is a very contagious viral infection spread through the air by coughing, sneezing, or simply talking. It is not caused by getting caught in a rainstorm or by sleeping with the fan or air-conditioning on. For most adults, the treatment is simply to wait it out: stay home, get lots of bed rest, drink lots of fluids, and take pills such as aspirin and pain-killers. Symptoms usually go away within two weeks. For the elderly and young, the initial viral infection may become a bacterial infection with deadly consequences, because the victims become too weak to battle the disease. The death rate for the general population is about one in every 1,000. Those most susceptible to serious effects of flu are people over 65 and people with chronic heart or lung problems, such as asthma. Flu season in the US is usually December to March. The best prevention, of course, is to stay away from infected people. Since that is almost impossible, the next best strategy is to get a flu injection. This vaccine reduces the number of people who get infected—and who die—yearly.