

# My Life, My Likes

## EXERCISE 1 QUESTIONNAIRE

Circle the answer(s) that best describe(s) you.

**1** I think my name is . . .

- a. very common.
- b. very unusual.
- c. cool.
- d. awful.

**2** I would like to change my name.

- a. yes
- b. no

**3** I have a nickname.

- a. yes
- b. no

**4** I'm from a . . .

- a. village.
- b. small town.
- c. small city.
- d. large city.

**5** I live in . . .

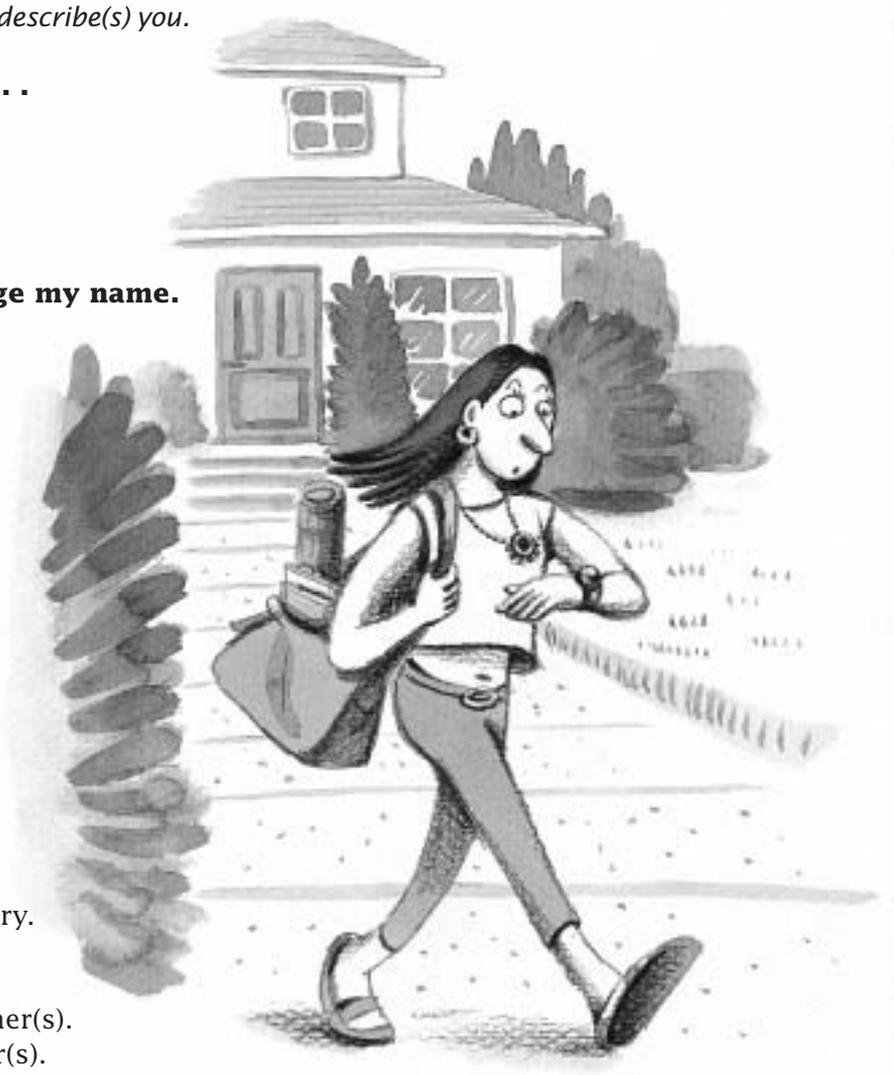
- a. a house.
- b. an apartment.
- c. a condo.
- d. a school dormitory.

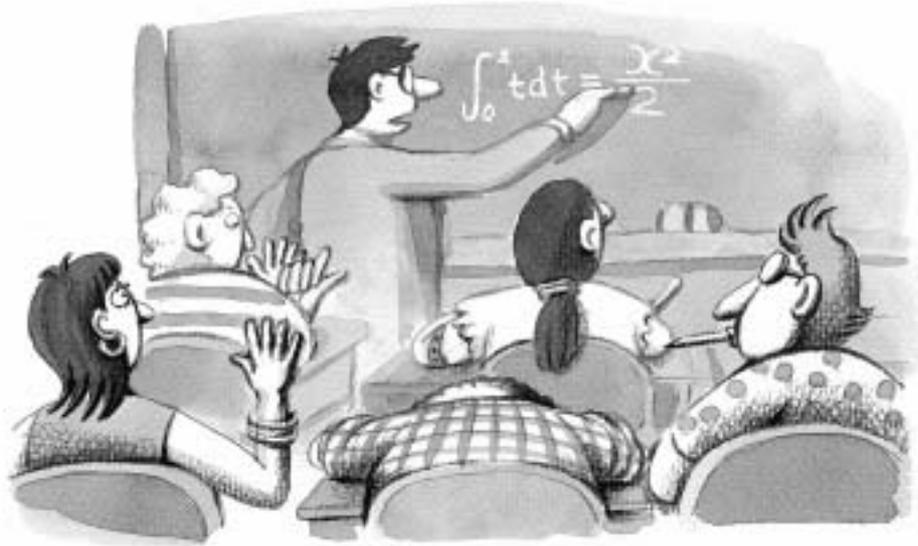
**6** I have . . .

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ brother(s).
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ sister(s).

**7** My junior high school days were . . .

- a. fun.
- b. boring.
- c. difficult.
- d. memorable.





- 8** I wanted to go to . . .
- a private high school.
  - a public high school.
  - a coed high school.
  - an all-boys'/girls' high school.

- 9** Belonging to a school club is . . .
- very important to me.
  - somewhat important to me.
  - not very important to me.

- 10** My favorite subject in school is . . .
- English.
  - math.
  - science.
  - P.E. (physical education).
  - Japanese.
  - \_\_\_\_\_

- 11** My worst subject in school is . . .
- history.
  - geography.
  - English.
  - music.
  - art.
  - \_\_\_\_\_

- 12** I think I am . . .
- lazy.
  - hardworking.
  - intelligent.
  - an interesting person to know.
  - \_\_\_\_\_

## USEFUL VOCABULARY & EXPRESSIONS

- common:** ordinary; usual
- unusual:** different in a way that is interesting; uncommon
- cool:** fashionable; great
- awful:** terrible; very bad
- condo:** condominium; a building that has many apartments
- dormitory:** a large building where college students often live
- boring:** not interesting; dull
- memorable:** something that is worth remembering; a good experience
- coed:** male and female students at the same school
- belonging:** being a part of; joining
- somewhat:** a little
- geography:** the study of the people and places in the world
- lazy:** not wanting to work
- hardworking:** a person who puts a lot of effort into their work

**EXERCISE 2****INTERVIEW****CD 2**

Ask your partner the questions below. Write short answers. It's OK to give extra information or to ask other questions.

**Example**

- A:** What's your name?  
**B:** My name is 'Aya' or 'Akahashi' or 'Aya' commonly.  
**A:** Is it OK if I call you Aya?  
**B:** Sure.



1. What's your name?

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2. Do you have a nickname?

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3. How many brothers and sisters do you have?

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4. Where are you from?

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5. Do you live in a condo?

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6. What did you think of your junior high school days?

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7. Do you belong to any clubs? Which one?

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8. What's your favorite subject in school?

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9. What's your worst subject in school?

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10. Are you hardworking or lazy? Why do you think so?

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**EXERCISE 3****LET'S TALK****CD 3**

Change partners and talk about three things you learned about the person you interviewed in Exercise 2. It's OK to ask questions, too.

**Example**

**A:** talked with Aiko Takahashi. She said that she likes other sports, especially soccer. She has one older brother who is 21, and two younger sisters, who are 10 and 12. She lives with her family in an apartment in Tokyo. Her favorite subjects are English and Japanese.

**B:** Is she a student, too?

**A:** I don't know. Let's ask her.

**EXERCISE 4****LISTENING PRACTICE****CD 4**

Some students are asking their teacher personal questions. As you listen, fill in the chart below with the correct information.

1. Hometown: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Number of brothers: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Number of sisters: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Favorite subject in high school: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Worst subject in high school: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE 5****I'VE GOT A QUESTION**

Ask your teacher or a student in your class an interesting question. Then write his or her answer.

**Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISE 6 TRUE STORIES

Read the following story.

### Nice to Meet You!

Hello! Have you ever had a foreign pen pal? It's a great way to make friends from all over the world. We can also learn a lot of useful and important information from each other. I'd like to think of you as my new pen pal.

I was born and raised in a small town in Washington State called Bellingham. As a child, I loved my neighborhood and town very much. There were lots of trees, lakes, and the ocean and mountains were also nearby. I loved playing outside with my friends. We spent a lot of time riding our bicycles and playing softball, tennis and soccer.

In high school my favorite subjects were Spanish and art. I enjoyed learning a foreign language because I knew that I wanted to travel someday. Math and science were my worst subjects. My high school days were times of maturing, making friends, having fun, studying hard and being involved in school activities.

During my senior year of high school, I met a foreign exchange student from Japan. I became very fascinated with Japan and Japanese culture. I knew that if I ever had the chance to travel abroad, I would want to visit there someday. Later, while studying at Western Washington University, I finally got my opportunity to travel. I was offered an internship to teach English in Japan. It was one of the most meaningful times of my life. I was amazed to see so much history in such a modern, industrialized country. I was able to experience a culture that was constantly changing but still had many old customs and traditions. Most of all, I learned a great deal about my country, my family and myself. I guess that's one of the advantages of traveling.

I think it's fun to study and learn about other cultures. In the future, I'd like to learn new languages, meet people from all over the world and write about my experiences. Who knows? Maybe someday I'll meet you. What are your plans for the future? I'd like to hear from you soon.



**READING COMPREHENSION:** Decide if each statement is true (T) or false (F).

- T  F 1. The writer probably did very well in all of his high school subjects.
- T  F 2. The writer met a Japanese exchange student in college.
- T  F 3. According to the writer, Japan should change some of its customs and traditions.

**EXERCISE 7****GROUP TALK****CD 5**

In small groups, ask and answer the following questions. Ask other questions and give extra information whenever possible.

**Example**

- A: Where were you born?  
 B: I was born in Sapporo but spent most of my life in Nagoya.  
 A: Really? Was born in Osaka?

1. Where were you born?
2. What did you like about your childhood?
3. What did you want to become when you were a child?
4. What are your easiest subjects in school?
5. What are your most difficult subjects in school?
6. Would you like to have a foreign friend? If yes, from which country?
7. If you could travel abroad during the summer, where would you go?
8. If you traveled abroad, do you think you would get homesick?
9. Which language would you like to learn besides English?
10. What are your plans for the future?

**EXERCISE 8****GROUP TALK****CD 6**

Practice introducing yourself to your friends. Talk about these things: name, hometown, age, interests and dislikes.

**Example**

My name is Sachiko and I'm from Takayama.  
 That's in Gifu Prefecture. I'm 18 years old, but I'll be 19 next month. In my spare time, I like to listen to music, go shopping and watch TV. I don't like watching sports or horror movies on TV.



**EXERCISE 9****LET'S TALK****CD 7**

In pairs, ask and answer questions to complete the chart below.

**Example**

A: What's your name?  
 B: My name's Jun Hayashi.  
 A: Where are you from, Jun?  
 B: I'm from Mito. That's a beautiful prefecture.

*Student Profile*

● **Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ ● **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

● **Hometown:** \_\_\_\_\_ ● **Birthday:** \_\_\_\_\_

● **Hobbies: 1.** \_\_\_\_\_ **2.** \_\_\_\_\_

● **Dream:** \_\_\_\_\_

● **Places you want to visit:** \_\_\_\_\_

● **Something you dislike:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE 10****FAVORITE TOPICS**

When you're with your friends, what do you like to talk about? Number the topics from 1 (most interesting) to 12 (least interesting).

- |                               |                 |                    |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ___ food                      | ___ dating      | ___ the future     |
| ___ music                     | ___ shopping    | ___ sports         |
| ___ friends                   | ___ hobbies     | ___ part-time jobs |
| ___ travel                    | ___ blood types | ___ holidays       |
| (other topics you like) _____ |                 |                    |

