

# ANGLEŠČINA – USTNA MATURA

## 1. JUDGING BY APPEARANCE

- Personal appearance and characteristics: describing people
- Can we judge people`s character by the way they look, the clothes they wear?

Person's character: honest(prijazen), reserved(zadržan), outgoing, frank(odkrit), tactless(brez občutka za druge), persuasive(prepričljiv), trustworthy, fussy(zoprn), patient, boring, pessimistic, mean, ambitious, generous, mature(zrel), interesting, hostile(sovražen), immature, friendly, impatient, tactful, good-natured, short-tempered, thick-skinned, easy-going, hard-working, deceitful(goljufiv), fair, shy, helpful, aggressive, reserved, polite, cheerful

Person's appearance:

*Height:* short, of medium height, tall, just over six foot

*Build:* skinny, long-legged, well-build, muscular(mišičast), overweight

*Age:* middle-aged, teenaged, elderly, in his mid-forties, in his late forties

*Complexion(barva polti):* pale(bled), freckled(pegast)

*Face:* moustache(brke), scar(brazgotina), beard(brada), wrinkled(naguban)

*Hair:* wavy, short, curly, blond, full, straight, bald(plešast)

*Eyes:* round, oval, dimples(jamice)

*Nose:* crooked(ukrivljen), freckled

*Lips:* thick, thin, curved(krivina)

## 2. PEOPLE WHO EMIGRATE

- Why do people leave their country?
- What problems do they face in foreign country?
- What are the advantages of leaving abroad?

## 3. TRAVELLING AND TRANSPORT

- What is your favourite way of travelling?
- Means of transport, their advantages and disadvantages?
- "Travel broadens the mind" – do you agree?

We can travel by car, by bus, by train, by bicycle, by motorbike, by plane, by ship, by ferry.

The reasons for travelling are very different. Some people travelling for business, pleasure and some for holidays.

There are the following traffic means used nowadays (according to the place where they are used):

- ◆ **Roads** - vehicles (passenger cars, trucks, buses, motorbikes, bicycles)  
Travelling by car is also popular way of travelling, because we can stop when we want and we decide where we are going. But car is not as comfortable as the plane and that`s why it`s better to travel by plane. Similar like car is a bus, but when we travel by bus we depend on the driver.
- ◆ **Rails** - trains (passenger trains - express, normal, local, sleeping, etc., cargo trains)
- ◆ **Rivers** - boats (for passengers, for cargo, even for accommodation - so called botels)
- ◆ **Seas** - big vessels (for passengers, for cargo - mainly oil, coal, containers, ferryboats, etc.)  
Very popular is travelling by boat. Many tourist agencies offer us cruises in different sees, like Mediterranean, Carribbean,...
- ◆ **Air** - planes (which can also be divided to passenger and cargo ones)  
Nowadays we travel a lot by plane, expecially when we go to the far-distant destination. That`s because it`s the fastest and the most comfortable way of travelling. Planes are also very safe, the biggest danger now are terrorists. They use planes to commit a suicide, killing themselves and other innocent people - we call that a terrorist attack. Plane is also my favorite mean of transport, because it`s quick, comfortable and safe.

Transport means:

Transportation is one of the most important processes in the modern world. It can be done by air, rails, roads or waterways. At the beginning the only way of transportation was known by foot, animals, like horses, mules, oxen and water. Motor **cars** usually run on gasoline and cause air pollution with their exhaust fumes. Beside walking, the **bicycle** is probably the cheapest way of transport. But it doesn't protect you from bad weather and you cannot carry a lot of luggage with you. **Trains** are also used for massive public transportation. The earliest were powered by steam and coal, but nowadays they are mostly electric- and diesel-powered. **Aircrafts** are used to travel by air. Passenger aircrafts is the fastest and the most comfortable way of public transport, but it is also very dangerous, because any failure can be deadly. And it is also very expensive.

Some people travelling for holiday. **Holiday** is a day of rest, when no work is done. You can go on holiday at the seaside. There can you stay in a hotel or in a private room. You can travel by camper and stay in a camp. Some people go on holiday in a mountain. There are no hotels, there are just wooden cottages. Today are very popular farm holidays, because in the country is fresh air. Today even more people travel on holiday abroad. That is more expensive, but you can see new countries and meet new people. And so you can learn foreign languages, you can learn their history and culture. In our country we have *public holiday*. That are the national and religious holidays.

I usually travel abroad by car. It is not the most comfortable, but I can stop wherever and whenever I want; I am not depend on other people like on the bus or train.

### **Tourism:**

A lot of people live off tourism, for example passenger transport companies, travel agencies, hotels, restaurants, souvenir shops and whoever collects admission fees for tourist attractions. This is why tourism is economically very important to some people.

Good and bad points of tourism:

Tourism gives employment to many people and brings a lot of money to the countries, which can use it to promote economic growth. This is especially important for poor, undeveloped countries. Tourism also allows many people to see a lot of new things and cultures, appreciate the variety and beauty of nature or just relax. In this respect travel broadnes the mind. On the other hand, massive tourism seriously damage the environment simply because there are too many people in one place.

One possible solution is a type of tourism that avoids violent changes of the environment and whose aim is not large profits but the enjoyment of original local sights and activities.

#### 4. PERIODS OF MAN`S LIFE

- Advantages and disadvantages of each period: childhood, adulthood, teenage years,...

##### a) BEING YOUNG

Advantages are flexible, dynamic, active character.

Open mind, because a young person is interested in learning, knowing unknown, new experience.

Optimistic, the whole life is in front of a young person.

Socially opened, person is opened to meet new people, to make friends, to go abroad, to know different cultures.

More romantic!!!!!!being more able to fall in love with another person

Others(parents) take care for you, they provide you food, clothing, pocket money  
a young person doesn` t have so many worries about surviving

##### Disadvantages:

Teenager don` t have regular income-lack of money

If you have to study, it is difficult to have also a regular job

A lot of pressures/stress from family, society, work

Dependency on parents

Irresponsibility

##### b) BEING OLD / RETIRED

##### Advantages :

The right of retirement gives an old person a lot of free time to relax, to do things that he/she couldn` t do before, to take care of grandchildren

wisdom(modrost, izkušnost) an old person has knowledge, that he got it from his own experience

peace with yourself

maturity(zrelost!!!)

##### Disadvantages:

due to body changes an old person is not able to do physically everything what he desires

health problems

loneliness

pessimism, dark future

#### 5. READING BOOKS, WATCHING FILMS

- What`s your favourite type of books?
- When do you read?
- Why do you choose a certain book? (author, title, cover page, it is »in« at the moment,...)
- What is better, to read a book or see a film made after a book?

## 6. FOOD AND HEALTH

- What is healthy/unhealthy food?
- What is a balanced diet?
- How does food affect our health?

a) Food keeps us alive, strong and helps us grow. Many people nowadays do not take enough time for having a healthy meals, because they are too busy and for that reason they eat fast food, which is not very healthy. A lot of people do not eat enough fruits and vegetables but they often eat sweets (especially children). The important thing about eating is when and how much to eat. The most healthy is to eat five times a day. The breakfast should be the biggest meal in a day. For dinner we shouldn't eat too much especially not food, which contains a lot of fat. The meal should contain the right amount of all nutrients.

We can prepare food in different ways. We can eat it fresh or we can cook or bake it. Fresh food is healthier than cooked and baked because it contains the biggest amount of vitamins and minerals. We can eat fresh fruits and some vegetables, but the rest of the food we have to cook or bake.

Nowadays are even more often disease which are connected with unhealthy eating. These diseases are Anorexia, Bulimia and Compulsive eating.

With teenagers is the most popular junk food. It is basically anything that is high in calories but lacking in nutrition. Hamburgers, crisps, chocolate, hot dogs and pizzas fall into this category. Side effect of junk food is that you are likely to gain weight. It can also affect on your's heart.

I don't like junk food very much and try to take enough time to eat every day. I always eat breakfast, because I think that it is the most important for my health. Beside healthy food is for our health important that we are every day sport active too.

b) Food gives us the energy to maintain life and growth. We should have five meals a day (breakfast, snack, lunch, afternoon snack, supper). We should not overeat and stuff ourselves with food. Today are fast food, take-aways and microwaves very popular. Our fast life-style often makes us decide for frozen, pre-packed and pre-cooked food. Most people eat in restaurants. During the week many people go for lunch to the nearest restaurant during their break. It is often difficult to understand menu, because it has lots of foreign foods. There are usually three courses: starter, main course and dessert. You can choose among several dishes. But fast food is very unhealthy. Many people are overweight. Many of them go on diet, either because they want to lose weight. Balanced diet contains the right proportion of vitamins, fats, proteins, minerals and carbohydrates. Most food packing gives information about the contents of the food and the ingredients are listed.

## 7. MARRIAGES IN MODERN SOCIETY

- Is marriage still needed today?
- Prenuptial agreement?
- Divorces – reasons, consequences on children,...

## 8. THE ENVIRONMENT

- What are some of the biggest ecological problems of the modern world (pollution, cutting down trees, greenhouse effect, population growth, extinction of animal species, nuclear power waste,...)?
- Can we do anything to stop destroying the environment?
- Organisations that deal with ecology.

Pollution is one of the greatest problem of our time. People care less for environment and more for the money, even one should be aware of the problem. The process of making air, water, soil dangerously dirty and not suitable for people to use.

Its **causes** are new technologies, chemicals, nuclear waste, oil, garbage, industrial discharge, cars, factories, airplanes, air conditioning, converters... Its

**consequences** are global warming, greenhouse effect, thin ozone layer, acid rain...

**Solutions:** natural energy, recycling, cleaning devices, catalytic, converters...

**The green house effect:** Earth is warming more and more because gasses (CFC's, methane, carbon dioxide) act like glass and allow sunshine and heat to pass in but not out again. This global warming is becoming more and more dangerous. *And result is:* global warming - increasing world temperatures - melting ice (higher water level flooded countries); bad conditions for agriculture; starvation; extinction for plants.

**Water pollution:** Every year, 14 billions pounds of sewage, sludge, and garbage are dumped into the world's oceans. The problem of ocean pollution affects every nation around the world, because water is able to transport pollution from one location to another. Water pollution has an influence on fish and other sea animals and plants. Today is a big problem drinkable water. In most modern countries there aren't enough clean water.

**Air pollution:** it can cause breathing problems and eye, throat and skin irritation. When solid waste is not properly treated and disposed of, it can become a breeding for pests and disease can spread. Pollution makes the ozone hole and because of it the sun is even more harmful for skin.

**Animals and plants:** Animals are in danger, because the forests, rivers and lakes where they live are disappearing. Leaves find it difficult to manufacture food in polluted air. When trees begin to lose their leaves, they may eventually die. When there is too much chemical content in the water absorbed by the roots, it can also affect plant life.

**Rain forest:** Rainforests help to control global warming because they absorb carbon dioxide. In recent years, large areas have been destroyed, as the trees are cut down for wood or burnt to clear the land for farming. The burning releases large amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

**Acid rain** is harmful to buildings, kills trees, pollutes water.

**Recycling** is the processing of used objects and materials so that they can be used again. Recycling saves energy and raw materials and also reduces damage to the countryside. Glass, paper and aluminium cans can be recycled very easily. Many towns have bottle banks and can banks where people can leave their empty bottles and cans for recycling.

Today we have environmental organisations like Greenpeace which take care of environment. They protect national parks and do recycling actions. The air could be cleaner if there were less cars; people should use bicycles more often or go on foot and use the alternative energy.

### 9. COMPUTERS IN OUR LIVES

- Computers have become indispensable in many areas of our lives. Give some examples: medicine, banking,...
- How much do you use a computer in your every-day life?
- More technology means less communication. Do you agree?

Nowadays computers with internet are becoming more and more important in information system and the world is becoming more dependent on it. Many important aspects of life already revolve around computers and if computers anywhere suddenly stopped working, the modern world would be in chaos. Internet can link people with sources of information that are many miles away.

Internet was born 30 years ago, because of the needs of researchers in defense industry of USA. Now it is one of the most common communication services. The most interesting service called **WWW** - World Wide Web and is used to surf across the Net. It is available to you to access any site on the world and gives you unlimited resources. You can find yourself information about anything you wish in just a few moments. The second service is called **E-Mail**. You can send a message to anybody on the Net, if you know his E-Mail address. He will receive your mail just a few seconds after you post it. **IRC** - Internet Relay Chat is most popular among younger users. This service offers you thousands of channels with different topics to talk in. A channel is similar to a conference, where you can exchanging your opinions about particular topic. Instead of talking you must press buttons on your keyboard. Kind a modern way of chatting.

Internet is the best thing which can happen to your computer. On internet you can learn English, because it is official language on the Net. And you can also meet new friends from all over the world.

But computers and internet have the disadvantages too. Computers radiate and are harmful for our health. Some children play games on computer all afternoon day after day. Many of computer games cause violence between youth and pressing the buttons on mouse and keyboard every day in the same movements can damage your fingers.

Computers have already revolutionized the way we live and work. But it is early days for computers. We don't know how much they are still changing the world. More computers wonders are yet come.

### 10. THE MASS MEDIA / WATCHING TV

- Which are the mass media?
- Which mass media do you prefer and why? (newspapers, TV,...)
- What influence do they have on our lives?

**Television** is the most important in our every day life. It is better than **radio**, because on radio you don't see what is going on. And watching TV is much more relaxing because we usually listen to the radio while doing other things. But the

television is much more harmful for health than radio. I usually watch TV in the evening. I like watch documentaries and comedies. But on the other hand you can take the radio wherever you want; it is easy to transport and it is in the cars, buses and in the shops.

**Newspapers** are more popular for older people. Young people rather watch TV or get informations from **internet**. In the newspapers you can read long, informative articles and what is happening in the world. The advantage is that you aren't depend on program, but you can read it whenever you have time. In our family we have a morning paper which comes every morning. Sometimes I buy yellow presses, because it are very interesting (attracting). This sort of magazines are very popular. They are interest stories about famous people that are not always real at all.

I think that people should more read and less watch TV today, because the television kills the art of conversation and we can become addicted to it. And it is also too much radiation from it.

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## 11. PETS IN OUR LIVES

- Why do people keep pets? Which animals make good pets and why?
- How do people treat pets / animals in general?
- In what different ways are animals used and abused (working animals, rescue dogs, trained animals, animals killed for fun, skin,..., animals used in laborstories,...)?
- What can we learn from animals?

Animals are very nice creatures (bitja). I think that pets are very important in our lives. People who love animals and who can afford a pet, why they shouldn't have one. Pets need love and carrying people, good food and always fresh water. I agree with the statement: »My dog is my best friend.«, because I also have a dog and he is my good friend. He is always happy when I come to see him. He can also comfort me (potolaži) if I am sad. He radiate (izžareva) positive energy. Pets are good for children, because they can get used responsibility to take care for somebody, like me and my sister did. Pets can also entertain old people, who spend most of the time at home. They can go out for walk with them and they are simply not alone. Animals shelters: it's good for lost pets, because many people throw away their pets, when they get tired of them (se jih naveličajo).

## 12. LANGUAGES AND LANGUAGE LEARNING

- English as a world language - advantages / disadvantages.
- The importance of learning foreign languages.

I guess we all know what would happened if nations spoke only their national language. International communication would not be possible. It is quite hard to imagine such a world. Therefore it is necessary to study foreign languages - to communicate with the world.

Unfortunately we do not have an universal language (except body language) that everybody would understand and speak. There were some trials e.g. Esperanto but so success was made. And even if people would accept Esperanto we would have to learn it as if it was a foreign language.

But anyway some selection must be made. When we decide to study any foreign languages we should consider the applicability of language. I guess it is quite inconvenient for an average American to begin learning Slovenian language.

I guess speaking foreign languages depends on the largeness of some nation, as well. Slovenes are obliged to speak at least English when we want to communicate to the world. But anyway it is better to know the foreign language and the native

languages. Because if the whole world wanted to speak one language native languages would extinct and therefore the notion of nation would extinct, too. But once we are studying foreign languages I think it is a waste of time when we go into details unless we want to know the language better than native speakers. Learning is useable until we can communicate in that language without any problems.

And what are the objective solutions? I guess there are not any easy way solutions. You have to put some effort into learning foreign languages and I think it is worth. Because it is always good to understand other people. And if we are too lazy to learn that, we still can use our universal body language.

### 13. THE FAMILY

- Family relationships: between parents and children.
- Family life - the changing values of a modern family, your attitude to family.
- Living in a big / small family - advantages and disadvantages.

Family is a group of people who are related to each other and live together. We know the difference between traditional and modern family. Traditional family is large, there are many children. Father is the breadwinner-he brings money home. Mother is the housewife, she takes care of children, does the housework, cooks and keeps the family together. Father works very long hours, Divorce rate is low. In modern family both parents work, usually long hours. Families are small and family members don't spend much time together. Life is fast and stressful. A fall in the marriage rate is, that couples live together, have children, but don't get married. Home is a place where you feel safe, warm, relaxed, loved, needed, respected, a place where you feel happy and a place that everybody needs. Family members are: mother, father, son, daughter, grandparents, other relatives (uncle, aunt, cousin, nephew), stepmother, stepfather, ... Problems in family life are divorces and separations, deaths, alcoholism, drugs and career, which can become more important than the family.

### 14. LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF

- What do you do to stay healthy?
- Health hazards - smoking, drinking alcohol, taking drugs, ...
- What do you do to stay fit?

### 15. SPORTS

- The importance of sports in your lives.
- Name some popular sports in Slovenia?
- Extreme sports - are you in favor or against them? Why?
- What is necessary to become a professional sportsman?

People practice sport for a hobby (to relax and to forget everyday problems), to keep fit, it is good for your general health, you meet a lot of people and make new friends,

it teaches you how to win and how to lose. Disadvantages for children in sport is, that they have no time for their friends, entertainment, for school and studying. Types of sport are individual, team sports, sports played in pairs. Winter sports are skiing, hockey, skating, tobogganing. Water sports are surfing, diving, canoeing, kayaking, sailing, swimming. Extreme sports are free climbing, bungee jumping, canyoning. Ball games are football, rugby, handball, basketball, baseball, tennis, volleyball, golf. Combat sports are wrestling, judo, karate, boxing. Other sports are cycling, mountaineering, climbing, bowling, motor racing. For professional sportsmen sport is a career. Sportsmen can't work alone, they need other people to help them: coaches (trenerji), psychologists, psyhoterapists, doctors, sponsors. Sport and money go hand in hand, because sport has become a business.

## 16. ENTERTAINMENT

- Different ways of spending your free time?
- Your favourite way of entertainment?

a) People can entertain with tv, radio, movies, films, musik, teathre, concerts... Young people go out with friends and have parties, they visit concerts. They also watch tv and use computers and mobile phones.

Old people are many times at home, but they go on walks or trips with their friends. My grandma is walking in mountains. They can have a dog or cat for entertaining. But many old people have work with their grandchildren.

I go out with my friends, I also spend my free time with my boyfriend. I go in a movie, disco, bar... But most of all I like trips with my friends (example: holidays in the seaside).

Entertainment is very different like in the past. I think that young people want to experience so many things, it seems like they are in the rush (se jim nekam mudi). People are changing and also values in society. In the past people were entertaining with home parties on a farm in a village. But today people go in discos, bars, restaurants, theatres...

b) People fill their free-time in different ways. Some of them read books. They read for fun, to improve their knowledge, to escape everyday stress, to escape reality. Young people read less and less. They prefer watching TV. When they want to see new film, they go to the cinema. It is kind of entertainment, too. Screens are big, sound effects and pop-corn, which is sold in the foyer, is one of the cinema attractions. Types of films are: adventure, historical, war, thriller, love story, detective story,..In the past it was very popular theatre. It is a building or outdoor area for the performance of plays. Types of performances: dramas, tragedies, comedies, musicals, shows,..Free time activity is playing an instrument, too. Wind instruments are: flute, trumpet, clarinet. Percussion instruments are drums and triangle. Stringed instruments are violin, viola, cello, guitar, harp, contrabass. Key instruments sre piano and accordion. Music has a great effect on the human system. Musical varieties are blues, classical, country, dance, jazz, rock,...We can buy music in different formats: records, tapes, CDs, videos.

## 17. PROBLEMS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

- Teenage years - advantages and disadvantages of being young.
- Generation gap between parents and children.

## 18. CHARITY APPEALS

- What is a charity?
- Which charity would you give money to? Why?
- Are charities necessary today?
- Have you ever helped / given to any charity organisation?

In 21. century is a lot of people, who haven't got enough for normal life. But there are generous people, who help those people. We have got charity that helps old people with food and housing, a hospice for people who are dying of an incurable disease, an organisation that encourages people to sponsor a child in the Third world, a charity that helps homeless people in cities, cancer research, a charity that helps people with HIV or AIDS, a group that believes we should not exploit animals in any way at all,...

The most known charities are Amnesty international, which help people in prison because of their beliefs, language, religion or colour; The RSPCA tries to help animals and DFA which helps people in Africa with clothes, medical supplies, food,...

In Slovenia are charity, which help people who haven't got enough money for life- Red Cross, Caritas,.. Well known charity is Unicef too.

I have given money to a charity, i often give money homeless people too.

## 19. CRIME

- The spreading of crime - causes and cures.
- Different types of crime.
- Death penalty - are you against or in favour of it? Why?

Na listih iz šole.

## 20. FASHION

- Are you fashion conscious or not?
- Where do you find out what is fashionable?
- Are young people victims of fashion?

## 21. A PLACE TO LIVE

- There is no place like home?
- Living in the country vs. Living in a city (air pollution, finding a flat, finding a job, entertainment, public transport,...)

Living in the country and living in the city have a lot of things, which for one are advantages and for the other disadvantages. But both of them have positive and negative sides.

For example: In the City you can eat in good restaurant, visit museums, go to the concerts or in the theatres. There is also a lot of shopping centres, where you can buy all kinds of things. In the city is important advantage public transport, which drives you in the any corner you want.

However, for every plus, there is a minus. Living in the city is very expensive so you often cannot afford all the things that are offered. Public transport is full in the morning and you have to hustle through a crowd (privatno se skozi množico). And there is one more thing, which bothers me the most: In every corner you look there is just concrete (beton). There is also a few plants, that are not artificial (umetne).

From the other side, there is a countryside. There you can see great nature, smell fresh air and enjoy in the view around you. If you have children you can be without any worries for them because in the country is safer for playing. People in the countryside are also more connected and they always help to each other. And if you want to have a big house with the garden, country is the right place to build it.

But I also find some disadvantages of living in the country. If you want to go out and dance with friends the only possibility is that you go in the city, because in the country nothing is going on at nights. And so for everything you need, you have to go in the city (for example: food and clothes), and for that you need to have a car.

From my side is country still better than city, because there you can rest when you come from the city and you have a piece of ground just for yourself.

## 22. LOOK BACK IN ANGER

Na listih iz šole.

## 23. THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT - TIME

Na listih iz šole.