

## COMMUNICATIVE SKILLS ASSESSMENT № 1

### **1. Speak about the role of the English language in your life.**

1. What are the things you have had difficulty with in learning or communicating in English?
2. Are there any aspects of life where English is or will be the only language used?
3. How are you going to use the knowledge of foreign languages in your future career?

### **2. Education is a matter between the person and the world of knowledge; school or college has little to do with it.**

1. How do computers open up new roads in education?
2. Do you think learning will ever take place without teachers?
3. Do you think you learn more on your own or when you study with a friend?

### **3. Speak about the things and events that make you feel happy.**

1. Are you an optimist or a pessimist by nature?
2. Can you say that happiness equals success?
3. What do you do to cheer yourself up?

### **4. “We travel for romance, we travel for architecture, and we travel to be lost” (Ray Bradbury).**

1. What is more important for you, the journey or the destination?
2. Do we need to travel to broaden our minds, or can we do it through television and the internet?
3. What kind of qualities does a traveler need to have?

### **5. Speak about your idea of a perfect holiday.**

1. Do you prefer to travel independently or go on a package holiday where everything is arranged for you? Why?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a holiday spent on your own?
3. How will people be spending their holidays in ten years from now?

### **6. Home is where the heart is.**

1. What makes you feel proud of your home?
2. How do you think the place where you live will change over the next few years?
3. What would your life be like without modern appliances?

**7. Speak about the most important factors for success at school.**

1. How can young people benefit from school activities outside the classroom?
2. Do you prefer studying with other people or on your own? Why?
3. To what extent should students be able to choose what they study at school?

**8. “The Earth is a fine place and worth fighting for” (Ernest Hemingway)**

1. Can an individual make a difference when it comes to the environment?
2. Should we avoid unnecessary travel in order to protect the environment?
3. What consequences does the climate change have for the nature and the people living on this planet?

**9. Speak about sport as part of our national culture**

1. What type of sport appeals to you most?
2. What features of character does sport cultivate in people?
3. Do you think sport creates good will between nations?

**10. How do you understand the following English saying: “One man’s meat is another man’s poison”?**

1. Do you try to avoid food containing additives?
2. Is it necessary for people to take vitamin supplements?
3. What places in your native town or city do you usually choose to eat out?

**11. Speak about the attitude of young people to cultural knowledge.**

1. Do you like traditional art forms or cutting-edge ones?
2. When did you go to a museum, picture gallery or exhibition last?
3. Do you have a favourite singer? Which of his songs do you love most?

**12. “Books are a uniquely portable magic” (Stephen King). Do you agree with this statement?**

1. What literary characters attract you as personalities?
2. Is reading books important for young people or can it be substituted by TV and computers?
3. Are there any books you would encourage other people to read?

**13. Speak about your school life. What do you like and dislike about it?**

1. Does your way of studying change according to what subject is being studied?
2. How often do you use the Internet to study?
3. Have you ever ‘burnt the midnight oil’ before an exam? If so, how useful did you find it?

**14. Speak about the importance of a healthy lifestyle.**

1. How health conscious are you?
2. What unhealthy habits do you have which can affect your health in the future?
3. What do young people do to relax in Belarus?

**15. Speak about your everyday problems and describe how you cope with them.**

1. Should parents impose time limits on a child's use of the computer?
2. How has the way you spend your free time changed in the last few years?
3. How well do you organize your time?

**16. Hobbies brighten people’s lives, don’t they?**

1. What hobbies are popular in Belarus?
2. Do you think some people become too obsessed with their hobbies?
3. Is it possible for a hobby to become a profession?

**17. A happy home life gives you a base from which you can go into the world with confidence.**

1. Can you easily discuss your problems with your parents?
2. Does such a problem as “the generation gap” really exist?
3. How important is it for families with children to spend time together?

**18. What traits of character help people realize their talents?**

1. Does school prepare young people adequately for the world of work?
2. What is more useful for a young person, going to university or getting practical work experience?
3. Do you consider ambition to be a positive or a negative quality?

**19. “A friend in need is a friend indeed”. Do you agree with this saying?**

1. How important is it to have friends who share the same interests as you?
2. Where is the best place to meet up with friends?
3. Have you ever helped your friend when he/she was in trouble?

**20. Speak about advantages and disadvantages of different ways of shopping.**

1. Do you like shopping online? What do you usually shop for?
2. Do you bargain when you buy things in the market?
3. Could you recommend a good place for shopping in Minsk or in your native town?

**21. Speak about your tastes in music.**

1. What would your life be like without music?
2. Is there any musical instrument you wish you had learned to play?
3. Would music be better or worse if computers hadn't come along?

**22. Speak about the importance of following the customs and traditions of your country.**

1. What public holidays do we celebrate in Belarus?
2. Do you have any special family holidays or celebrations?
3. What religious holidays do people celebrate in our country?

**23. The knowledge of the past gives us insight into the future.**

1. What places in Belarus are connected with the life of the outstanding people of the country?
2. How important is it nowadays to have some knowledge of the past and of our roots?
3. Why do myths, folk tales and fairy tales continue to have a wide appeal to each new generation?

**24. Speak about outstanding people of Belarus.**

1. How great is the influence of famous people on the public life?
2. Whom of the famous people would you like to take after?
3. Would you like to be popular and famous?

**25. Speak about the role of science and technology in our life.**

1. Can you imagine your life without the Internet?
2. How do you think technology will develop in the future? (Why?)
3. Do you think the future lies in mobile phones or another device will take its place?