

Personal Introduction

Read the prompt below. In 25 seconds, you must reply in your own words, as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 30 seconds to record your response. Your response will be sent together with your score report to the institutions selected by you.

Please introduce yourself. For example, you could talk about one or more of the following:

1. Your interests
2. Your plans for future study
3. Why you want to study abroad
4. Why you need to learn English
5. Why you chose this test

Question 1 : Read Aloud

Look at the text below. In 40 seconds, you must read this aloud as naturally and clearly as possible. You have 40 seconds to read this text aloud:

1. Flags:

In the middle ages, the design and use of flags were considered a means of identifying social status. Flags were, therefore, the symbols not of nations but of the nobility. The design of each flag resembled the "devices" on the noble's Coat of Arms, and the size of the flag was an indication of how high the owner stood in the nobility.

2. Hunters:

Pudritzl and Heller suggest that hunters of extraterrestrial life may want to listen particularly closely for signals originating at star systems within that narrow band of galactic sky. Advanced civilizations there may have already detected us using the transit method, they say, and may now be sending us a message. You might think of this paper, then, like a treasure map, for intelligent life.

3. Creativity:

To examine what we really think about creativity, scientists asked students to present ideas for how airlines can get more revenue from their passengers. Half the students were told to come

up with novel solutions, and the rest were asked to stick with something more tried-and-true. Other students who then listened to these pitches rated those who were innovative as having less leadership potential.

4. Small rock:

Collins and Greg Stock, Yosemite's park geologists, wanted to know if small rock movements induced by changing temperatures might weaken cracks and contribute to rock falls. So the researchers—who were both climbers—found a suitable fracture near the base of a 500-meter-tall cliff and installed instruments called crack meters, which monitored the width of the crack over time.

5. Wolf population:

Over time a split would have appeared in wolf populations, he says those wolves that feared humans and those that didn't. So this would have facilitated, I think, the domestication process. At which point humans deliberately took wolves as pets. But that domestication process, Frantz says, may have happened more than once: first in the west, in Europe. And again in the Far East, in Asia.

6. Nests:

Nell says that, in order to seek protection from their furry foes, birds actually prefer to build their nests in plots of the swamp with a resident alligator. In fact, in one study, a graduate student planted fake alligators. The birds seemed to prefer to build nests close to them. Where there's a water source, there are alligators, so it's sort of this moat of protection around these colonies.

7. Stem cells:

In 1998, James Thompson pronounced that he had isolated human embryonic stem cells in the laboratory. At last, these powerful cells were within the grip of scientists to experiment with, understand, and develop into fixes for the things that go wrong.