

## Sample Discussions

### Pre-reading Part B (p.39)

1. What do you like about your culture?

A: I love the rich traditions and customs that have been **passed down** through generations. I find it amazing how our culture has managed to **preserve its unique art forms**. The traditional paintings, music, and dance are so diverse and beautiful. I'm particularly fond of **Chinese painting, Cantonese opera, and lion dances**.

B: Oh, I couldn't agree more! When it comes to Cantonese opera, the combination of singing and acting is really **impressive**. Our **food is another aspect** that I absolutely love. The **local food** is delicious and **unique**. For example, our milk tea has a mellow taste, and the crispy pineapple buns are just **mouthwatering** ...

2. What don't you like about your culture?

A: I have noticed that our **fast-paced lifestyle** and **competitive environment** have made a lot of us **impatient**. It seems like everyone is constantly rushing and always in a hurry to get things done. It's quite **stressful**, don't you agree?

B: Definitely, especially when it comes to **education** and **academic achievement**. Chinese culture, including Hong Kong, places a strong emphasis on excelling academically, and that can create a lot of stress. My teachers and parents always expect me to be **efficient** and get quick results. It's like I'm **always on the go**, and it's hard to just slow down and be patient.

C: Absolutely! I can't stand the **intense competition** and strong emphasis on achievement. I'm so focused on studies that I can't have more time to pursue my interests in painting and playing badminton, but my mum just won't let me enjoy them as hobbies or leisure activities. She keeps turning my hobbies into **intensive training**...