

Appendix

A list of random questions and a short video of the author conducting the activity can be accessed at <http://globalstoriespress.org/downloadables.htm>. Below are four sets of questions with answers/notes for students.

Random Questions 1

| | Questions | Answers / Notes |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Where's your hometown? | Tell your hometown if your question is not understood. |
| 2 | How many brothers and sisters do you have? | Don't include yourself! |
| 3 | What's the capital of Japan? | Tokyo. |
| 4 | What color are your socks? | Tell your color if question is not understood. |
| 5 | What's in your pocket right now? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 6 | Who won the 2013 World Baseball Classic? | The Dominican Republic. |
| 7 | Which country has the highest population? | China. |
| 8 | Where do birds fly? | The sky. |
| 9 | What's the largest animal that ever lived on Earth? | The blue whale. |
| 10 | What large mammal can you find in Nara Park? | Deer. |
| 11 | What did you eat for dinner last night? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 12 | Who is your favorite musician? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 13 | What is the fastest thing in the universe? | Light |
| 14 | What is Japan's 4th largest island? | Shikoku. |
| 15 | What's your favorite fruit? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 16 | What's your grandfather's name? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 17 | What religion is mainly practiced in Indonesia? | Islam. |
| 18 | What is the largest prefecture in Japan? | Hokkaido. |
| 19 | What did you eat for breakfast last night? | Give example if necessary. |
| 20 | What year did you graduate high school? | Give example if necessary. |
| 21 | Which state in the U.S. is John from? | New York |
| 22 | What's today's date? | Month, number, year. |
| 23 | What's your hobby? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 24 | Tell me the name of an extinct animal.* | The dodo, Japanese wolf, baiji (China's river dolphin). |
| 25 | How did you come to school today? | Give example if question is not understood. |
| 26 | Tell me something you are looking forward to.** | 楽しみにしていること |
| 27 | What's your favorite vegetable? | For ex., carrot, celery, cabbage, etc. |
| 28 | What is the main religion practiced in Thailand? | (Buddhism) |
| 29 | What season is it right now? | Spring, summer, fall (autumn) or winter. |
| 30 | What's your name? *** | |

*Some questions, like this one, were recently covered in class.

** My own rule is to avoid using Japanese, but make exceptions. Due to the difficulty of explaining this idiom in English, and the accuracy of the translation, I use Japanese here.

*** The question for the last student standing, asked with a smile, is a bit of joke, to give that student, who is probably weak at English and nervous, an easy way to finally sit down.

Random Questions 2

| Questions | Answers / Notes | |
|-----------|---|--|
| 1 | Where did John recently buy his grey sweater? | H&M. |
| 2 | What do you call a person who takes pictures for a living? | A photographer. |
| 3 | Tell me the date of the shortest day of the year (the day when there is the least amount of sunlight)? | December 21 or 22. |
| 4 | What is the original religion of Japan that is still practiced today? | Shinto. |
| 5 | Tell me a popular Japanese dish that came from China. | For ex., ramen, gyoza, mabodofu, etc. |
| 6 | John moved in December. Can you remember from where or to where? | Ibigawa to Oogaki. |
| 7 | What animal can make tools besides humans? | Monkeys. |
| 8 | In Japan, students often have to do <i>nikki</i> . What is <i>nikki</i> in English? | Diary. |
| 9 | Tell me something you are looking forward to. | 楽しいみにしていること. |
| 10 | What's the name of one of the greatest scientists, Jewish, born in Germany, made many important theories, emigrated to the U.S... | Einstein. |
| 11 | What's the name of the small island country off the southern coast of India? | Sri Lanka. |
| 12 | What did you eat for lunch today? | Give example if necessary. |
| 13 | How many pairs of shoes do you own? | Explain: Count your sneakers, sandals, boots... |
| 14 | If you could be any animal, which would you be? | Give example if necessary. |
| 15 | What's the name of the American football championship game? | The Super Bowl. |
| 16 | Tell me the title of the last book you've read. | Give example if necessary. |
| 17 | Tell me a vegetable that you like to eat raw. | For ex. carrot, cabbage, celery, etc. |
| 18 | What is 20 plus 4? | 24. |
| 19 | How many siblings do you have? | Count all brothers and sisters. |
| 20 | Tell me the name of a green fruit with a really large seed. It's used for California sushi... | Avocado. |
| 21 | Which country (from textbook's activity) has a very high population density? | Bangladesh. |
| 22 | Which country has a very low population density? | Kazakhstan. |
| 23 | Have you ever used a cell phone while hiding it from the teacher? Which class? | Gesture a student using a cell phone in class. |
| 24 | Tell me the name and age of your grandparent who is over 85 years old. | Give example if necessary. |
| 25 | Did you shovel snow this past winter? How long did it take? | Answers will vary. |
| 26 | Which prefecture is Yakushima in? | Kagoshima. |
| 27 | What's the most common pet that's a reptile? | Turtle. |
| 28 | On which continent is Myanmar? (pause) Mongolia? (pause) India...? | Asia. |
| 29 | Say "hello" in a language besides English or Japanese. (ex. "ni hau" (Chinese) or "bonjour" (French)) | Say "hello" in a language besides English or Japanese. (ex. "ni hau" (Chinese) or "bonjour" (French)). |
| 30 | What do people sit on? | A chair. |

Random Questions 3

| Questions | Answers / Notes |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | What's the word for your mother's sister? Aunt. |
| 2 | When was the last time you cut your fingernails? XX days or weeks ago. |
| 3 | What's between your shoe and your foot? Your sock. |
| 4 | Which country is shaped like a boot? Italy. |
| 5 | What kind of fish is a common pet? A goldfish. |
| 6 | What reptile has no arms or legs? A snake. |
| 7 | What bird is the symbol of Japan? A crane (ツル) or ibis (トキ) |
| 8 | What year will you graduate university? Around 2016. |
| 9 | What's the name of Japan's highest mountain? Mt. Fuji. |
| 10 | What is the capital of France? Paris. |
| 11 | What's your favorite meat? For ex., beef, pork, chicken, etc. |
| 12 | What's the main religion in Russia? Christianity. |
| 13 | Lake Tazawa is in which prefecture? Akita. |
| 14 | What color is my shirt? For ex., red, brown, grey... |
| 15 | Which planet is between Mercury and Earth? Venus. |
| 16 | What is the sun? A star. |
| 17 | How do you say <i>genmai</i> in English? Brown rice. |
| 18 | The U.K. is comprised of 3 places (that used to be countries)? Tell me one. England |
| 19 | The U.K. is comprised of which 3 places (that used to be countries)? Tell me another. Scotland. |
| 20 | The U.K. is comprised of which 3 places (that used to be countries)? Wales. |
| 21 | What's the name of the scientist who first explained gravity? Newton. |
| 22 | What's the biggest country (by land) in the world? Russia. |
| 23 | How many days a year are night and day equal length? Two. |
| 24 | Tell me something you are looking forward to. 楽しみにしていること. |
| 25 | Why do mosquitoes bite? To feed their babies. |
| 26 | What is the main theory for the origin of the universe? The Big Bang. |
| 27 | How tall are you? For ex., XX cm. |
| 28 | What is the name of an ex-prime minister in Japan? Koizumi, Noda, Hatoyama, Kan, etc. |
| 29 | What's nine times eight? $9 \times 8 = 72$ |
| 30 | How old are you? |

Random Questions 4

| Questions | Answers / Notes | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | If the door is locked, what do you use to get in? | A key. |
| 2 | In which country is the Taj Mahal? | India. |
| 3 | There are several ingredients to make fried rice. Tell me one (except for rice). | For ex. Onions / scallions (ネギ). |
| 4 | There are several ingredients to make fried rice. Tell me another. | For ex. egg. |
| 5 | There are several ingredients to make fried rice. Tell me another. | For ex. meat, pepper, etc. |
| 6 | What is the 4 th planet from the sun? | Mars. |
| 7 | Who was president of China from 2003 to 2013? | (make a joke, then explain "Hu" was the name of the Chinese president) |
| 8 | Which bird is the symbol of the U.S.? | The eagle. |
| 9 | What year did you graduate high school? | Probably around 2012. |
| 10 | Spiderman's costume is mostly what color? | Red. |
| 11 | What date did the twin towers in N.Y. fall? | September 11, 2001 |
| 12 | How do you say goodbye in Chinese? | Dzai jyen. |
| 13 | The Tasmanian devil is from which country? | Australia. |
| 14 | Name a famous artist? | ex. Picasso, Vincent Van Gogh, Salvador Dali, etc. |
| 15 | Where is the Eifel Tower? | Paris, France. |
| 16 | What season was it before this one? | For ex., winter, spring, summer fall (autumn). |
| 17 | What's the name of the book that Christians believe in? | The bible. |
| 18 | What's the highest mountain in the world? | Mt. Everest. |
| 19 | What's the local name of Mt. Everest? | Chomolungma. |
| 20 | What color are the walls? | For ex., white, grey, beige... |
| 21 | What is a typical American breakfast? | For ex., cereal, toast, scrambled eggs, pancakes... |
| 22 | North America is composed of three countries. What is one? | Canada. |
| 23 | North America is composed of three countries. What is another? | The United States. |
| 24 | North America is composed of three countries. What is the other? | Mexico. |
| 25 | What are some symptoms of a cold? | Sneezing, coughing, stuffed nose, etc. |
| 26 | What's the largest lake in Japan? | Lake Biwa. |
| 27 | What's the most common fruit in the world? | Banana. |
| 28 | What's the capital of Malaysia? | Kuala Lumpur. |
| 29 | Where is your grandfather's (mother's father) hometown? | |
| 30 | What time is it? | |