Reading

- In what way is reading important in human life / your life?
- Do people read nowadays as much as they did a decade ago? Why?
- Do you have a favorite book / poem / author? Why do you like it / him? Discuss the genres you prefer.
- If you want to read something for pleasure, how do you choose a book? What are the criteria? Imagine you are in the library or in a bookstore. How do you choose? What is important?

How Books Can Open Your Mind
(Lisa Bu/TED 2013)
https://www.ted.com/talks/lisa_bu_how_books_can_open_your_mind

You are going to listen to and watch a lady talking about the role of books in her life.

Have a look a this lady called Lisa and make up a story of her life. Think of the following:

- her age,
- place of birth,
- place of living,
- family,
- her job,
- her dream.

After you watch the 1st part of the talk compare your guesses with Lisa's real life story.



Match the words and their definitions:

expenses	to help someone and be kind to them
support	wanting to do something very much
adults	to ask for help or support
powerless	money that you spend in order to buy or do something
unfair	to need something or make something necessary
to be determined	the fact that people or animals do what they are told to do
turn to sb/sth	not right, unjust
require	someone who is no longer a child
obedience	lack of official or legal right to do something

Clarify the meaning of the following word combinations:

- *tiger mother*
- *second-class happiness*
- *hunger for parental advice*

Listen to the 1st part and tick the jobs Lisa mentions in her talk:

- a teacher □ an engineer □ a dancer □
- a singer □ an athlete □ a gymnast □
- a writer □ a manager □ a school principal □

Listen to the 2nd part and fill in the gaps with the missing words:

1. But that's so ___.
2. So I was ___ to find another calling.
3. I ___ to books.
4. I ___ my hunger for parental advice from this book by a family of writers and musicians.
5. I ___ my role model of an independent woman when Confucian tradition ___ obedience.
6. And I ___ to be efficient from this book.
7. And I was ___ to study abroad after reading these.

Listen to the 3d part and say if the statements are true or false:

1. Lisa was born in America in 1995.
2. In the U.S. Lisa read books by Chinese authors.
3. The Bible taught Lisa to honor her parents.
4. Lisa restarted the relationship with her parents.
5. Meeting a new culture started her habit of comparative reading.
6. Lisa firmly believed China was at the center of the world before coming to the U.S.
7. Comparative reading is a standard practice in the academic world.

- **Listen to the 4th part and name Lisa's comparative reading practices.**

- **Listen to the final part and say what conclusions Lisa arrives at. Use the prompts:** a magic portal, feel lonely or powerless, the purpose of a dream.

- **What do the numbers 1970, 15, 1995 mean in Lisa's talk?**

YES/NO corner: (if you agree with the statement take a YES corner. If you disagree take a NO corner. Be ready to explain your choice.)

- There's only one sure way to happiness: a safe and well-paid job.
- Books can satisfy children's hunger for parental advice.
- Books give a magic portal to connect with people of the past and the present.
- Books expand your mind.
- When a dream doesn't come true turn to books to create a new path for yourself.
- Coming true is not the only purpose of a dream.