

Select Readings, Second Edition Pre-Intermediate, Chapter 2 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Host Families

Each year, thousands of young people all over the world travel to a foreign country to study. Many of these *exchange students* stay with native *homestay* or *host families* to learn more about the local culture. But why would these host families want to invite a foreign student into their home? Phyllis Hanzie, a host mother to several international students over many years, describes her motivation and experience.

Why become a host family?

Mrs. Hanzie: The reasons a family decides to host a foreign student are probably as diverse¹ as the families themselves. In our case, it was our youngest son. He had always been interested in foreign languages and cultures. One day, he saw a poster in his high school asking for host families. That night, he brought up the idea with us at dinner. We discussed the details and decided to give it a try.

How did you prepare?

Mrs. Hanzie: We weren't really sure what to expect. We found out several months in advance that our first student would be coming from Japan, and that he would be staying with us as a member of our family for a full year. Our whole family tried to learn as much about Japan as we could before his arrival. We also spent time corresponding with the student and his family by mail before his arrival in the U.S. There was no e-mail back then!

Did you have any problems during that year?

Mrs. Hanzie: Every family has problems sometimes. The whole experience actually taught us all that with patience and communication, everything can be worked out.

How was the experience?

Mrs. Hanzie: It was a wonderful experience for us all. We all learned so much. Our Japanese 'son' was able to experience life in a 'typical' American family. And our family was able to learn so much more about the world around us. It was a very rewarding experience.

1. True or false? All exchange students stay with host families to learn about local culture.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. True or false? Phyllis Hanzie has hosted only one exchange student in her home.
 - A. True
 - B. False

¹ **diverse** different; having a lot of variety

3. Where did the Hanzies find out about becoming a host family?
 - A. Their son had been an exchange student before.
 - B. Someone at their son's school told them about it.
 - C. An exchange student mailed them a letter about it.
 - D. Their son saw a poster about it on the wall of his school.
4. Why did the Hanzies decide to become a host family?
 - A. Because their son had studied abroad before
 - B. For many different reasons
 - C. Because their son asked them to
 - D. Because they liked studying about other language and cultures
5. How long did the Hanzie family study about Japan before their exchange student arrived?
 - A. One day
 - B. Several months
 - C. One full year
 - D. Before the student arrived
6. How did the Hanzies first contact their exchange student?
 - A. By sending an e-mail
 - B. By sending a letter
 - C. By sending a poster
 - D. By calling his family
7. According to the passage, we can infer that...
 - A. the Hanzies had a lot of problems with their exchange student.
 - B. the exchange student had a lot of problems with the Hanzies.
 - C. the Hanzies had problems with their exchange student from time to time.
 - D. the exchange student didn't know how to communicate his problems.
8. In the last paragraph, by writing 'son' in quotation marks, the writer means...
 - A. Mrs. Hanzie thought of the exchange student like her own son.
 - B. Mrs. Hanzie wanted to have another son in her family.
 - C. Mrs. Hanzie didn't really get along with her exchange student.
 - D. Mrs. Hanzie wishes the exchange student would act like her son.
9. From the passage, we can infer that...
 - A. the Hanzies have more than one son.
 - B. the Hanzies' exchange student was younger than their son.
 - C. the Hanzies' eldest son is already married.
 - D. the Hanzies' son went to stay with their exchange student's family.
10. Which of the following is not mentioned as a positive part of the Hanzies' experience?
 - A. They learned how to speak Japanese from their exchange student.
 - B. They learned a lot about the world around them.
 - C. They learned about patience and communication.
 - D. They learned a lot about Japan.