

Part I Pre-reading Questions

1. What would you like to compare college life to?
2. What are the benefits of keeping a harmonious relationship with your roommates?
3. What do you think of the differences between the learning in your high school and that in college now?

Part II Extensive Reading

Text A

Three Years Later and 10 Points Wiser



http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_48cc0e5a0100badw.html

Time isn't on my side. Another year has passed, and the completion of my junior year is the **essence** of my thought. What a year it has been.

essence *n.* 本质, 实质; 精华, 精髓; 香精

I ritually write a column summarizing the new theories of each of my years. Now I'm a 20-year-old college student, bittersweet at having one year remaining. I have 10 points to share on my latest stop on my journey to **commencement**. Here we go:

commencement *n.* 开始, 开端; 毕业典礼

The navigating one: Why can college be so utopian, so realistic, but so unrealistic? I've been fortunate this year to get most things my way. But my encouragement to freshmen is to **stick** to the fight. The race is given to the swift, but you must see the goal before you take off running. Find your niche on campus, and maximize your potential in that **domain**.

The prodigious two: Academic and **extra-curricular** achievement is important, but communication skills and personality are a must! Personality is everything. Look at the world's most famous **celebrities** – they have talent, but personality is the driving force in their success. If you don't have it, you won't make it – plain and simple.

The third eye: Know your value. You don't have to be **arrogant** or overly cocky. Never settle for less – in relationships, jobs or grades. A man must know his value in a world where he is **constantly** marketing himself. But don't value yourself so highly that you are unable to learn from others.

The sniping four: Don't let your college experience **overshadow** your family. Fall semester, I realized my college career was taking up so much of my life that I was neglecting my family. I quickly fixed the problem. Habitat may need your help building a house, but don't let your family's framework fall apart at home.

The oracle five: This is for those who make the laws and regulations we live by. Please don't be naive. The fact that it's illegal doesn't mean students are not doing it! Students, don't be naive and think Crimewatch won't discover you. We're not **immune to** anything.

Nostradamus six: Things may change, but we still have room to grow. Downtown has finally opened up to the black students. We can have parties and events comfortably at a few of the downtown clubs – which has been lacking. All downtown clubs don't have a welcome mat. They claim their insurance policy doesn't cover "hip-hop parties".

The turbulent seven: Never date anyone you couldn't see marrying or being in a long-lasting relationship with. The older you get, the more tiring relationship games are.

Ethereal eight: Just trust the process! Things in life happen for a reason. We've all had situations we didn't understand. I'm beginning to see why god allowed certain things in my life to occur: they have made me a better, stronger, realer person.

extra-curricular *adj.* 课外的

celebrity *n.* 名人，名流；名声；名誉

arrogant *adj.* 傲慢的，自大的

constantly *adv.* 不断地，时常地

overshadow *vt.* 使失色，使阴暗

be immune to 对……有免疫力；不受……影响

The ultimate nine: Have fun here and everywhere! Lately, I've had this desire to road trip. I realized this year that classes are going to be hard – so let's roll down to Atlanta for a party on a Thursday night or jump over to South Carolina for a weekend.

The talented tenth: Nothing in life is **guaranteed** – a college degree, financial aid, nothing. Sometimes we think we're giving 100 percent to a cause and we'll **fall short of** the talented tenth needed to obtain what we want.

guarantee vt. 保证

fall short of 不足；缺乏

Originated from *Red and Black*, the student newspaper of University of Georgia

(576 words)

Exercises

I. Understand the text.

1. How does the author feel about his last year on campus? Why does he feel so?
2. What does the author mean by saying “Don't let your college experience overshadow your family”?
3. What's the author's opinion about dating on campus?
4. According to the author, why did God allow some incomprehensible things to happen in our life?
5. Why can't some absolutely hard-working college students succeed in their academic career?

II. Choose the best answer.

1. The author says, “Time isn't on my side”, it means _____.
 - A. time elapses very quickly for him when he is at college
 - B. he is not so good at time management in his college years
 - C. he hasn't completed his junior year assignment when time ran out
 - D. his classmates have more free time than he does
2. Before freshmen start their college years, the author advises them to do all of the following things EXCEPT _____.
 - A. be well prepared for the upcoming challenges
 - B. understand fully the importance of perseverance

- C. make clear about their goals at college
 D. take full advantage of their potential
3. In order to illustrate _____ the author takes some celebrities for example.
 A. the significance of academic and extra-curricular achievement
 B. how to be a successful college student
 C. the way a student can get enough driving force in their success
 D. the importance of having a likable personality
4. According to the passage, how should college students value themselves?
 A. They are expected to keep a low profile as often as possible.
 B. They should neither be arrogant nor overly cocky.
 C. They are supposed to market themselves unless they are gifted.
 D. They should value themselves highly so that they can learn more.
5. The underlined phrase “neglecting” (Paragraph 5) probably means _____.
 A. value
 B. pay no attention to
 C. contribute to
 D. respect
6. The author gives his advice on the following subjects EXCEPT _____.
 A. academic development in college
 B. the balance between study and family
 C. entertainment in college years
 D. marriage on campus
7. What is the topic of the passage?
 A. To discuss how to enjoy the last year in the college.
 B. To show off the author’s experience of the past three years.
 C. To show freshmen how to enjoy college years wisely.
 D. To show author’s 10 points score three years later.

III. Choose the best answer according to its correct meaning.

extra-curriculum activities	与.....结合
ivory tower	学生贷款
student loan	课外活动
orientation	学年

bachelor's degree	方向，目标
academic year	提前
fall short of	意识到
be immune to	学士学位
in advance	不足，缺乏
be aware of	不受.....影响
couple with	象牙塔

IV. Choose the right word to fill in the blanks in proper form.

career	neglect	celebrity	lately	turbulent
claim	constantly	framework	regulation	domain

- As time passes by, the English language is _____ changing.
- They established a basic _____ of ground rules for discussions.
- No country can afford to _____ the education of its young people.
- This is a book about the _____ times of the French Revolution.
- After a successful _____ in business, he was appointed good-will ambassador.
- This problem is outside the _____ of medical science.
- Harry Potter creator JK Rowling was ranked the sixth most powerful _____ last year.
- Please leave him alone. There's been a lot on his mind _____.
- He was fined 200 dollars for violation of traffic _____.
- These products all _____ to make you thin without dieting

V. Translate the sentences.

- The completion of my *junior year* is the *essence* of my thought.

- Habitat* may need your help building a house, but don't let your family's *framework fall apart* at home.

3. Students, don't be *naive* and think *Crimewatch* won't discover you. We're not *immune* to anything.

4. I'm beginning to see why god allowed *certain things* in my life to occur: they have made me a better, stronger, realer person.

5. Sometimes we think we're giving 100 percent to a *cause* and we'll *fall short of* the talented tenth needed to *obtain* what we want.

VI. Retell the text.

The author of the text is a _____ in college. He wrote this article to share the following ten points of his college _____ with freshmen.

1. Stick to the fight and make sure about your _____ before you start.

2. Compared with academic performance and extra-curriculum activities, communication skills and _____ are a must.

3. You are expected to strike a _____ between your college experience and your family.

4. You do have to be sure about your value and should neither _____ nor underestimate yourself.

5. The law and _____ makers should understand students more while students should control themselves better (be more self-restraint).

6. You can have a comfortable party at a few of the _____ clubs although nowadays they are hard to find.

7. If you don't intend to _____ someone, don't date him or her on campus.

8. You are supposed to value the _____, for no matter what the result could be, it is the process that makes you better, stronger and realer.

9. Don't forget to enjoy yourselves by _____.

10. The talented point on campus is that nothing in life is _____.

