

TRINITY ISE 2- CONVERSATION QUESTIONS - SOCIETY AND LIVING

1. What's the standard of living like in Spain?

In Spain the **vast** majority of people could be classified into a medium, medium-low **socioeconomic level** because of the economic crisis of the last few years. Moreover, the **working conditions have worsened**, this is, the salary is lower than **it used to be**, people usually work **long hours** and the qualifications needed are more demanding.

2. Are there big differences in living standards among families you know?

3. How do you think society has changed since your parents were teenagers?

I think the most notorious changes **have taken place** in the field of technology, in the past, there weren't mobile phones or social networks which have had a great impact on our society. They have changed the way we see and understand life by making it more comfortable. **Moreover** education has **undergone** a big change both in the way of teaching and in the way of learning.

4. Are there any big differences between society in Spain and in nearby countries?

Well, **I don't think so**, since we live in Europe, and Europe is a **westernized** continent where everyone enjoys **facilities** and services that other **underdeveloped** countries don't possess. So I think that there aren't big differences between Spain, France and Portugal.

5. How do other countries influence Spain? 6. Which countries have most influence on Spanish society?

I think that the most influential country nowadays is The United States, as far as I'm concerned they influence a **wide range** of aspects of our daily lives, such as the food, with all **the fast food chains** being **set up** in our country, or the entertainment world with their Hollywood films and popstars, and of course, we can't forget the fashion **trends**, which are usually set by these superstars.

6. How have living standards changed in the last few years?

7. Do good living standards always bring happiness?

From my point of view, I consider this statement to be true. When you enjoy good living standards, you can do many more things than when you haven't got money, such as: travelling, eating out habitually, buying unnecessary things, etc. In any case, having money doesn't bring happiness, but it certainly helps, **beyond any doubt**.

8. **Does better education usually improve people's living standards?**

9. **Would you consider leaving Spain in order to improve your living standards?**

Nowadays, **taking into account** that Europe is in crisis, I wouldn't leave Spain **in order to** improve my living standards and to live in any country of Europe similar to Spain.

Another option would be outside Europe, but I think it wouldn't improve my living standards either because not many countries are **richer than** Spain. **Apart from that**, I'm a family person, I love to see my family everyday and my life without them wouldn't be the same.

10. **How do you think nature affects living standards?**