

## Rotary Youth Exchange **First Night** Questions

Revised May 2024

Meet with each of your host families to ask these questions, as soon as you are able, upon moving into their home. These will help you establish trust and understanding from the beginning of your relationship.

1. How would you prefer to be addressed? Should I call you by your first name, family name, Mom, Dad, or another title?
2. What are the daily responsibilities expected of me while living in your home, including tasks like making my bed, maintaining a tidy room, and cleaning the bathroom after use?
3. Please guide me through the laundering process and share where I should store dirty clothes until they are ready to be washed.
4. Will I be given a key to the house or a door code?
5. Where can I keep my bathroom accessories, and what is the most convenient time for me to use the bathroom on weekday mornings and for showering?
6. Are there any specific bathroom guidelines that I should be aware of?
7. Is there anything that shouldn't be put in the toilet or sink? Are there time limits if I like to take long or hot showers?
8. Can I use the family's shampoo, toothpaste, and tampons or should I purchase my own? If I need to purchase my own, where can I purchase them?
9. When are the designated meal times, and do I have any responsibilities during those times, like setting or clearing the table, helping to prepare, washing dishes, or disposing of garbage?
10. Am I permitted to help myself to food and non-alcoholic drinks at any time, or should I ask for permission?
11. Can I use kitchen appliances such as the microwave, dishwasher, or stove? Am I allowed to cook/bake/use the kitchen when I want or do I need to ask permission/wait until mealtimes?
12. Which areas of the house are considered strictly private, such as your study, bedroom, or pantry?
13. Who should I go to for help with my homework? What are the best areas of the house for me to do my homework?
14. What time should I wake up on weekdays, weekends, and holidays?

15. Is it acceptable to rearrange the furniture in my bedroom?
16. Can I decorate my room with posters or pictures, and if so, how would you prefer them to be attached to the walls?
17. Where should I store my suitcases?
18. Am I allowed to use household appliances such as the iron, washing machine, etc.? What is the protocol for ironing clothes if needed?
19. Am I allowed to use the stereo, computer, or TV?
20. What time should I wake up on weekends and holidays?
21. What are the designated bedtime hours on weekdays and weekends?
22. What time should I be home on school nights if I go out?
23. What time should I be home on weekends if I go out? And which nights are considered weekend nights?
24. Do family members have specific birthdays, and if so, what are the dates?
25. Am I expected to care /babysit younger children in the family? What are the expectations about them coming into my bedroom?
26. Is it acceptable to have friends stay overnight?
27. What are the rules for entertaining friends in my room?
28. Can I invite friends over during the day? Can I do it after school? Can I have them over if no one else is home?
29. What is the best way to contact you? Do you prefer WhatsApp, Line, texting, calling, or something else?
30. If the host family has pets: am I required to help take care of them? Am I allowed to take the dog for a walk? Can I feed them treats?
31. What is the telephone number at home, and how should I contact you in case of an emergency when I am away?
32. What are the family's views on social media and phone usage throughout the day?
33. Are there any restrictions or time limits for Internet and phone usage in the household?
34. Where should I report any bullying or abuse happening at school?
35. Can I receive calls from friends abroad, and are there specific times when calls are not acceptable?
36. What is the process for sending and receiving mail or packages?
37. Are there any particular dislikes within the household, such as chewing gum, music preferences, or table etiquette?
38. What transportation options are available to me? Are there times or places where it is unsafe for me to travel on my own?
39. Are there rules about traveling with friends? Do you have to meet my friends first? Does there need to be an adult driving if I get in a car?
40. How will I get to school? How can I travel for shopping or going to the movies?

41. What are the expectations regarding attending religious institutions, and are there any preferences for church attendance?
42. If I encounter a problem with the family or a family member, how would you prefer me to address it – through a note, a face-to-face discussion, informing my Rotary counselor, or handling it independently?
43. I am from a different country and culture and there will be some misunderstandings where I accidentally do something rude or perceive something as rude. If there is a problem with family or a family member that is bothering me, how would you like me to handle it?
  - a. Send you a message explaining what happened
  - b. Write a note to you explaining what happened
  - c. Ask for an in-person discussion with you
  - d. Talk about it with my Rotary counselor
  - e. Work through it on my own
44. How do I enroll in school, and what should I do about school lunch expenses? If there is an expense, who pays- me, you, Rotary?
45. How do I enroll in school, and are there any supplies that I need, like uniforms?
46. How can I arrange to go shopping for personal items?
47. Is there anything else I can do to contribute around the house?
48. Am I expected to attend Rotary meetings, and if so, how often will they be arranged?
49. How do I attend Rotary meetings? Who will arrange it? How often should I attend?
50. Is there any other important information or concerns that we should discuss?

Remember to maintain open and honest communication with both your Host Family and Rotary, and to thank them for making this experience possible.