**Appendix A: Initial items for L2 motivation, IDLE, and FLE after confirming content validity**

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| Item | Bilingual items | Why removed in later analysis |
| *The Ideal L2 Self* |
| Q7 | Whenever I think of my future career, I imagine myself using English. 每当我想到我未来的职业时，我都会想象自己在使用英语。 |  |
| Q10 | I can imagine a situation where I am doing business with foreigners by speaking English. 我可以想象我与外国人通过英语交流做生意的场景。 |  |
| Q29 | I can imagine myself speaking English with international friends or colleagues. 我可以想象自己与国际朋友或同事说英语。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q33 | I imagine myself as someone who is able to speak English. 我想象自己是一个能够说英语的人。 |  |
| Q49 | I can imagine myself speaking English in the future with foreign friends in informal settings. 我能想象得出自己将来在非正式场合上和外国朋友用英语交谈的情形。 |  |
| Q57 | I can imagine myself living or travelling abroad and having a discussion in English. 我可以想象自己在国外生活或旅行，用英语进行讨论。 |  |
| *The Ought-to L2 Self* |
| Q11 | It will have a negative impact on my life if I don’t learn English. 如果我不学英语，会对我的生活产生负面影响。 |  |
| Q16 | I consider learning English important because the people surrounding me think that I should do it. 我觉得学英语很重要，因为我身边的人认为我应该学好它。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q37 | Studying English is important to me in order to gain the approval of the society. 学英语对我来说很重要，因为这样可以获得社会的认可。 |  |
| Q38 | Studying English is important to me in order to gain the approval of my peers and teachers. 学英语很重要，因为我想获得老师同学对我的认可。 |  |
| Q41 | Studying English is important to me because an educated person is supposed to be able to use English.. 学习英语对我来说很重要，因为一个受过教育的人应该能够使用英语。 |  |
| Q45 | Studying English is important to me because other people will respect me more if I have a knowledge of English.. 学习英语对我来说是重要的，因为如果我有英语知识，其他人会更尊重我。 |  |
| *IDLE* |
| Q8 | I watch English language movies or dramas with subtitles in English. 我看有英文字幕的英语电影或电视剧。 |  |
| Q21 | I browse English or English-related content via social media (e.g., Douyin, Weibo, Xiaohongshu, WeChat, etc.) 我通过社交媒体（如豆瓣网、微博、小红书、微信等）浏览英语或与英语相关的内容。 |  |
| Q34 | I listen to English language news programs online or TV. 我在网上或电视上听英语新闻节目。 |  |
| Q52 | I play online games in English. 我用玩英文网络游戏。 | Deleted because the communality that this item extracted was lower than .4 |
| Q12 | I use technology to connect with non-native speakers of English all over the world (e.g., Japanese, Korean). 我使用科技与世界各地的非英语母语者（如日本人、韩国人）联系。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q22 | I share English contents online. 我在网上分享英语内容。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q28 | I use technology to connect with native speakers of the language (e.g., American, British). 我使用科技与以该语言为母语的人联系（如美国人、英国人）。 |  |
| Q31 | I chat with others in English via social media (e.g., WeChat, Facebook, WhatsApp, INS, etc). 我通过社交媒体（如微信、Facebook、WhatsApp、INS等）与他人用英语聊天。 |  |
| *FLE* |
| Q9 | Learning English is fun. 学英语很有趣。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q15 | There is a good atmosphere around me for learning English. 周围英语学习的氛围很好。 | Deleted due to high MI value |
| Q23 | I have learned many interesting things in learning English. 学英语的过程中，我学了很多有趣的事情。 |  |
| Q26 | I am proud of my English grades. 我为自己的英语成绩感到自豪。 |  |
| Q36 | I am not tired of learning English. 我不厌倦英语学习。 |  |
| Q7 | Whenever I think of my future career, I imagine myself using English. 每当我想到我未来的职业时，我都会想象自己在使用使用英语。 |  |

**Appendix B: Interview guide**

1. Please briefly introduce yourself (major, year level, family background, or city of origin)
2. When did you start learning English?
3. How did you learn English at different stages of your life?
4. What do you think of the role of English in your life? And why?
5. Do you think you are a motivated English learner? Why?
6. What/who has impacted your English learning motivation? And how?
7. Are you interested in learning or using English all the time? Why
8. Could you please explain how you usually use technology (phones, computers, or other digital devices) to learn or use English in informal and naturalistic settings?
9. Do you have any experience of using English online in informal contexts (e.g., to write or read sth on Douyin, Bilibili, or other apps/websites)? If so, could you please further elaborate on it?
10. Do you have any experience of using English on some international apps or websites (e.g., YouTube, Instagram, or others)? If so, could you please specify them?
11. Is learning English fun for you? Why?
12. What are some moments when you think you enjoy learning English? Could you please give us some examples?
13. Do you think what and who has impacted your foreign language learning enjoyment? Why?
14. How do you like the relationship between your IDLE practices and English learning motivation? Why?
15. In what ways do you think your IDLE activities, English learning motivation, and foreign language enjoyment are connected?
16. Do you have anything to add?