

“Getting to Know You” Interviews

Estimated Time:

For 20 students expect the activity to take 55-60 minutes.

Purpose:

This exercise can be used at any time during the first few days of a new class. It allows the students to get to know each other and can be used as a diagnostic assessment tool of reading, writing, listening, and speaking (on a lesser degree, grammar as well) abilities by the teacher.

Instructions:

- Place students in pairs.
- If there's an odd person out, then the teacher can partner with the student or place that student in a group of three.
- Each student is to take out a piece of paper, write their name, student #, and date at the top right hand side of the page.
- Students copy down the questions below and interview their partners, copying down the answers from the other person on their own sheet (i.e. Paul interviews Peter but Paul is the one that writes down Peter's answers on his own paper).
- Students have a maximum of 15 minutes to interview each other.
- In pairs, students present their partners to the rest of their classmates by coming up to the front of the class (mini presentation). Allow only for 2 minutes for each pair.
- Sheets are to be collected by the teacher at the end of class to be reviewed as part of class participation and diagnostic assessment (not to be returned to the students).

Questions:

1. What is your first and last name?
2. From what country are you?
3. What educational experience do you have?
4. What work experience do you have?
5. Why did you choose Brock University?
6. What are you expecting to gain from participating in the Business English program?
7. What are your future aspirations?