

## Ice-Breakers for Listening and Speaking Class

### Activity One: Interviews

Time: 5 minutes per interview and 40 minutes for each pair to present

- 1) In pairs, students are to interview each other, taking turns to be the interviewer and then the interviewee.
- 2) Answers are to be written on one page: one student writes on the front, the other on the back; be sure to ask them to put their names at the top of each side.
- 3) Questions:
  - a) Interviewer name
  - b) Interviewee name
  - c) First and last name
  - d) From what country
  - e) Educational experience
  - f) Work experience
  - g) Graduate studies (why Brock)
  - h) Aspirations
- 4) Students come to the front of the class in their respective pairs and present their partners to the rest of the class.
- 5) Hand in for participation marks-teacher can use as an aid to get to know students.

### Activity Two: What do we have in common?

Time: 30 minutes

- 1) Hand out a copy of the "What do we have in common" sheet to each student.
- 2) If you have 25 students in your class, they should have 24 students listed on their papers.
- 3) Collect the sheets and mark as part of class participation.

### Activity Three: Ideal ways to practice English

Time: 50 minutes

- 1) Write the following sentences on the board or provide them via an overhead projector:

An ideal way to practice English is...

- a) in class with a professional English teacher
  - b) in a café with a native English speaker (not necessarily a teacher)
  - c) living in a country where people speak English
  - d) doing business in English
  - e) watch films and television in English
  - f) repeat what the teacher says in class
  - g) keeping a notebook of new words
  - h) reading in English
  - i) writing in English
  - j) speaking in English
  - k) listening in English
- 2) Students can either agree, disagree or change the sentence to what they feel is correct.
  - 3) Take up the answers as a class. This can lead into a discussion about language learning, experience, education and English for specific purposes.
  - 4) Students can hand in their answers for participation marks.