

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.