

Lesson: S102

Informal first meetings and making conversation



Aim: To increase fluency and initiate conversation

A. First meetings. Read the following dialogue with your teacher.

John and Kim are boyfriend and girlfriend.
Evelyn is Johns' mother and she has travelled from the UK to France to meet Kim for the first time. They meet at the airport. Read the following short dialogue:

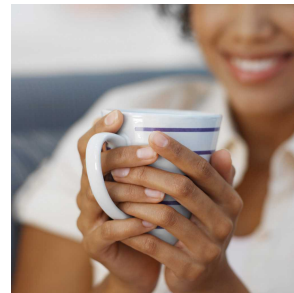
Kim: It's really nice to meet you
Evelyn: It's so lovely to meet you, too!
Kim: How was your trip?
Evelyn: Fine, thanks

B. Making conversation:

Later they are sharing a coffee and making conversation.

Read the following dialogue with your teacher:

Evelyn: So, do you like living here?
Kim: Yes, but it's so different than China
Evelyn: Really? In what way?
Kim: In every way. Everything is so different; the food, the clothes, the people
Evelyn: I can imagine!
Kim: It was a very big culture shock...but now I love it.
Evelyn: Really, but do you miss home?
Kim: Yes, of course. I really miss my family and friends.
Evelyn: I'm sure you do.....Tell me about China



Phone English

C. Practice using the expressions from the dialogue in the boxes:

Language focus 1 *Like doing*

- Look at the first statement in the ‘making conversation’ dialogue: **Do you like living here?**
- Notice the construction: Like + verb+ing

I like eating chips she likes eating chips

- Practice:
 - Now tell your teacher about two things you like doing.
 - Ask your teacher what he/she likes doing

D. Practice using the expressions from the dialogue in the boxes:

Language focus 2 *Tell me about...*

- Look at the way Evelyn asks her about her family: ‘**Tell me about...**’
- This is a good phrase because it is easy to remember.
- Practice. Use this phrase to ask your teacher about:
 - life in his/her country
 - his/her family
 - food in his/her country
 - his/her studies
 - his/her job

Phone English

E. Practice using the expressions from the dialogue in the boxes:

Language focus 3 *Showing interest and keeping a conversation going*

Look at some of the language in the box below used to keep the conversation going and show interest. We have added more.

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| To keep a conversation going/show interest: | Really? | Is that right? |
| Agreeing: | I'm sure you do | I can imagine |
| Agreeing to a positive statement: | Me, too | |
| Agreeing to a negative statement: | Me neither | |

- Practice 1. Use the phrases above to respond to the sentences your teacher will say below:
Teacher read:
 - I really don't like fast food like MacDonalds or Burger King
 - I like living abroad but I miss my family back at home
 - I really like jogging and exercising
 - Heathrow airport is having real problems at the moment. Many flights have been cancelled
 - Finding jobs in England is easy but finding good jobs with good money is really difficult
 - My mum was a famous actress on TV
- Practice 2. Ask your teacher the questions in D again. This time your teacher will respond with longer answers. Use some off the phrases in E to agree, continue the conversation and show interest.

F. **Homework.**

Write more of the dialogue between Evelyn and Kim to tell your teacher next time.