

STUDENTS INTERVIEW ONE ANOTHER AND REPORT BACK WHAT THEY LEARNED



During the first days of a new school term I encourage my students to interview one another in order to learn about each other's lives. I break the class down into teams of two, and provide a handout with questions they can use in interviewing each other. They are encouraged to listen carefully to what their partner says and to take notes while they interview. After the team members interview one another I'll have each questioner report back to the class what was learned from the person who was interviewed. Such an activity provides a way for each student to practice speaking and listening skills and helps build rapport among students. What better way to learn about each other than by interviewing?

Here are some interview questions which can be used:

1. Hello, my name is _____. I am pleased to meet you. What is your name?
2. Who were you named after? Does your name have a special meaning? Do you have a nickname? Were you named after someone?
3. Where are you from? Where did you grow up?
4. What was it like when you were a child? Tell me about it. What games did you play?
5. What is your happiest memory? Saddest memory?
6. What is the most important thing that ever happened to you in your life?
7. What kind of work do you do? Why did you choose that type of work?
8. What do you like about your job? What don't you like about it?
9. Do you have a favorite hobby or interest? Tell me about it.
10. Do you have a goal in life? What is it?

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