

## 实用交际英语口语 1

### Practical Oral English Communication

#### PART I PERSON-TO-PERSON CONVERSATIONS

#### UNIT ONE CAMPUS AND ACADEMIA

##### 1. Teaching Objectives

Students will be able to

- 1) know the general principles and strategies of person-to-person conversations;
- 2) initiate a conversation;
- 3) talk about campus and academic life.

##### 2. Pre-requirements

Students should have

- 1) read course syllabus;
- 2) thought about their needs and expectations for an oral English communication course.

##### 3. Highlighted Form of Communication

Person-to-person conversations

##### 4. Teaching and Drilling Methods

Lecture, pair work, group work

##### 5. Communication Knowledge

Rules for conducting a good conversation —

Dos	Don'ts
☞ Create a hospitable space and be a good listener. Show your interest in what the	☞ Remember not to get too personal in the first few talks with a person.

other person says. Give them feedback even if it is only a smile or an “hmm”.	
👉 Be willing to ask questions and encourage each other’s contributions.	👉 Do not talk for too long at a time. Note the rhythm and leave room for interaction.
👉 Be ready to share information. A quality conversation combines receiving information with giving out.	👉 Do not attempt to dominate the conversation.
👉 Be ready to connect diverse perspectives.	👉 Do not attempt to impose your ideas onto others.

## 6. Teaching Plan in Steps

### 1) Snowball game

Purpose: Icebreaking

Steps: Ask each student to write down on a piece of paper three questions that he/she would like to know about the other students in class, fold the paper into a snowball, throw the ball as far as he/she can. Then each student has to answer the questions on the paper that hits him/her. They should provide in their responses as much detailed information as possible. Please note that the questions students write should not be too personal, neither should they be general questions that can be answered with a simple “yes” or “no”.

😊 Recommended Question Topics: name, meaning of name, hometown, major, hobby, opinion on campus life, comments on lessons, ambition, career plan...
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### 2) Introduce principles and strategies for person-to-person conversations

Steps:

- a. Ask students to reflect on the snow-ball game they have just played, and evaluate the questions and responses – were they proper according to students’ common sense about interpersonal communication?
- b. Have students read the principles and strategies out aloud.

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👉 Be willing to ask questions and encourage each other’s contributions.	👉 Do not talk for too long at a time. Note the rhythm and leave room for interaction.
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- c. Explain key guidelines with examples;
- d. Ask students to evaluate again the questions and responses from the snow-ball game, with the help of the knowledge of principles and strategies. Have students reflect on the following prompts: “Could I have asked a better question? Could I have given a better response?”

### 3) Watch and learn

- ▶ Video: clip from movie *Legally Blonde*



Steps:

- a. Play the video clip.
- b. Ask five students to report in turn what each character said about themselves upon meeting each other for the first time.
- c. Ask other students to comment on the personality traits of the characters, as are shown in this first meeting scene.

### 4) Skim read and answer questions

📖 Passage: “How to Talk to Professors”

Steps:

- a. Ask students to skim read the passage and pick out key guidelines as for how to talk to professors;
- b. Ask students to talk about the passage.

Prompts: Do you have problems communicating with your professors? Has Professor Wax's essay shed any light on this matter for you? Talk about the perplexities you encounter when trying to reach out to your professors and ask each other for solutions.

☺ Recommended sentence patterns:
I am grateful that...
I am confused when it comes to...
I was <u>not</u> sure about... until...
I am still learning to...

#### 5) Challenge yourself: strike up a conversation (Pair Work)

Purpose: to polish interpersonal skills

Steps:

- a. Pair students up. Student A in the pair assumes an imaginary identity such as a boy/girl who works part-time at the school library/cafe/language centre. Student B has to strike up a conversation with and get to know some basic information about him/her.
- b. Have one or two pairs to reproduce their conversation onstage, and ask other students to comment on their performance, based on their knowledge about person-to-person conversations.

### 7. Homework

- 1) Get prepared: Suppose you will take an interview at a certain students' association. Prepare a one-minute self-introduction and answers to questions commonly asked in interviews.
- 2) Students should read the two passages in "Part I Read and Think" from next unit.
- 3) Students should watch the two videos in "Part II Listen and See" from next unit.
- 4) Students should read sample dialogue "At the Airport".