

+ written and compiled by Brand Smit

+

www.essentiallanguageresources.com

Terms of use

Copyright © 2024 BJL Smit and Essential Language Resources. All rights reserved.

Some elements found in this material are copyrighted and cannot be extracted and used outside of this file without permission or license.

Maps created with MapChart.net

You may also be interested in other language resources:

www.essentiallanguageresources.com

ELR.STORE

EssentialLanguageResources.COM		ELR.STORE	
Ded	icated to all the students		
	in Korea and Taiwan with whom I have had		
	y interesting discussions		
		3 P a g e	

Contents

Introduction	7
Tips on answering discussion questions	10
PART 1: TOPIC DISCUSSION	
Breaking The Ice	13
Meeting People	15
Family and Relationships, Part 1	17
Family and Relationships, Part 2	19
Childhood Memories	21
Personality and Personal Growth, Part 1	23
Personality and Personal Growth, Part 2	25
Language Learning	27
House and Home	29
Work and Career, Part 1	31
Work and Career, Part 2	32
Hobbies and Interests	34
Entertainment and Media	36
Sports and Recreation	38
Shopping Habits	40
Going Out	43
International Travel	45
Domestic Travel	47
Food and Drinks	49
Culture and Society	51
Nature and Environment	53
Body Language and Communication	55
Health and Well-being, Part 1	57
Health and Well-being, Part 2	59
Education and Learning	60
Friendship and Dating	62
The Internet	64
Financial Management	66
Computers and Smartphones	68
Science and Technology	70

PART 2: MORE DISCUSSION	
Beginner Level Questions	74
101 Random Questions	77
Popular Idioms with Discussion Questions	81
Controversial Topics	97
Questions to Get Younger ESL Learners Talking	100
Quick End-of-Class Discussions	102
PART 3: MORE SPEAKING PRACTICE	
Grammar Practice: Question and Answer	104
Present Tenses	104
Past Tenses	105
Future Tenses	107
Conditionals	109
Would you rather	112
One Minute Speech Topics	113
Tell the Story	115
Two Truths, One Lie	118
PART 4: LANGUAGE REFERENCE	
English Grammar: A Quick Review of Tenses	122
English Grammar: Conditionals	124
English Grammar: Irregular Verbs	127
English Grammar: Parts of Speech	131
The 100 Most Common Nouns in English	132
The 100 Most Common Verbs in English	133
The 100 Most Common Adjectives in English	134
The 100 Most Common Adverbs in English	135
Languages, Food, and Music: Nouns and Adjectives	137
Work, Jobs, and Careers: Nouns and Verbs	140
Commonly Misspelled English Words	150
Typographical Symbols and Punctuation Marks	152
Interesting Facts About English	154
Sources of English Vocabulary	155

PART 5: FACTUAL REFERENCE	
Measurements	158
Military Units and Leaders	160
50 Important Events in World History	161
50 Significant Figures in World History	163
Presidents of the United States of America	165
Countries, Capital Cities, Currencies, Populations (2022)	167
Map: World	174
Map: Africa	175
Map: Central America and the Caribbean	176
Map: North America, Central America, and the Caribbean	177
Map: South America	178
Map: United States of America	179
Map: Central Asia	181
Map: East Asia	182
Map: South Asia	183
Map: Southeast Asia	184
Map: Western Asia	185
Map: Asia-Pacific	186
Map: Eastern Europe	187
Map: Northern Europe	188
Map: Southern Europe	189
Map: Western Europe	190
Map: Major Cities in Africa	191
Map: Major Cities in North America	192
Map: Major Cities in South America	193
Map: Major Cities in Central Asia	194
Map: Major Cities in East Asia	195
Map: Major Cities in South Asia	196
Map: Major Cities in Southeast Asia	197
Map: Major Cities in Western Asia	198
Map: Major Cities in Asia-Pacific	199
Map: Major Cities in Europe	200

Introduction

Welcome to this comprehensive guide to mastering English through discussions. This book aims to support second-language English learners at various stages of their learning journey. Whether your students are at the pre-intermediate level or more advanced learners aiming to refine their skills, you will find this resource both practical and enriching.

Part 1: Topic Discussion

The first section of this book focuses on discussions that span a diverse range of topics. With approximately 30 topics covered, you will find questions that encourage deep thinking and lively discussion. From everyday life to more complex issues, these topics are designed to help your students practice speaking and thinking in English. Each question gives students the opportunity to express their thoughts, share their experiences, and listen to others. This approach not only enhances their speaking skills but also builds confidence in using English in various contexts.

Part 2: More Discussion

This section takes conversation practice further with a variety of random questions, beginner-level prompts, and quick end-of-class discussion topics. Comprehension of popular idioms is reinforced with discussion questions, and if your students are mature enough, a section on more controversial topics.

This part of the book is also perfect for warming up before diving into more complex topics or for casual practice. By engaging with these questions, students will improve their ability to think on their feet and respond to a wide array of queries in English.

Part 3: More Speaking Practice

Students get ample opportunity in the first two sections to express and discuss their opinions and ideas and relate their experiences. The first part of this section goes back to the basics: practicing simple question and answer dialogs with different grammatical structures.

More opportunity is then given where students can practice their speaking skills with short speeches, imagined stories, and statements of fact and fiction.