

Interview Questions

A few simple questions and phrases to get started: If you want some ideas here's how I've used it with fantastic results.

How to used this worksheet

First, use your imagination!

If you want some ideas here's how I've used it with fantastic results.

I was working with two 2 graduates in Thailand who were preparing for a University entrance interview.

They had 21 hrs of instruction over a 3 day period; their English level was 'pre intermediate'.

I first went through the basics of ask and answer, using the questions in the worksheet. While doing this, I made suggestions and did a little rote work on their grammar.

Next, I asked them to write their responses, following that I asked them the questions again while they read their written responses. The second student would listen and record any questions they had, or errors made by the first student.

After this, we spent some time 'polishing' the responses, paying attention to the students confirming that they understood the questions by repeating the question back to me with the correct intonation, before proceeding to give their answer. (This also gives them time to prepare to deliver their reply.)

The next stage involved the students not using the written work as a prompt but combining their hand gestures as a form of memory prompt while adding a 'natural look' to their language.

As they became more confident and able to 'ad lib' I started to re-phrase the questions and change my 'posture' to try and create an authentic environment.

Finally, I focused on building self confidence by making the classroom more frightening than the situation they will be in for the interview. I told them that if they can perform in the classroom, then the interview will be 'inside their comfort zone'. You will need to use your imagination for that one! I also used visualization techniques, were they would stay alone in a room and visualize the interview with them being supremely confident and fluent. The visualization included smells, sounds, and temperature for added realism.

Bill Boyd is an English teacher currently living and teaching in Thailand. He owns and operates this website: <http://eslpal.com>

A few simple questions and phrases to get started: Good morning/afternoon. Pleased/Nice to meet you. How are you, today? Tell me a little bit about yourself.

Could you please describe yourself?

Tell me a little bit about your family.

What do you like to do in your free/spare time?

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