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A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Self-employment At what age do people usually begin to work in your country? At what age do people usually retire in your country? At what age would you like to retire?What do you think you will do after you retire? How much money do you think you need to retire with your lifestyle? Can you talk about what a typical day at your current job is like? Can you describe some of the people that you work with? Can you describe your current job? What was your first job? Do women usually work after they get married in your country? Do you ever work overtime?If so, do you get paid more for overtime work? Do you have a part-time job? If so, what do you do? Do you have to attend a lot of meetings for your job? Do you have to do a lot of paperwork? Do you have to work overtime?If so, how often?Do you have to work on Sundays? Do you know someone who has worked as an undertaker?What is the job of a an undertaker?Can women do this job or is it better for a man to be an undertaker? Do you like your boss? Why or why not? Do you like your job? Do you like your job? Why or why not? Do you think it is more important to make a lot of money or to enjoy your job? Do you think it's acceptable for women to be in the military? Why/why not? Do you think people over 65 should be made to retire? Do you think women and men should be paid the same for the same job? Do you think women are good bosses?Are there women bosses in your country? Do you think your company is well run?Do you think that the place where you work is well run? Do you work on weekends? Does your mother work?Does your mother work outside of the house? Have you ever been promoted? Have you ever taken any courses that specifically help you with the job you are doing now? Have you ever worked on a farm?Did you like it?Would you like to go back on this farm job?If not , why? How do you like your work? How have working conditions changed in recent years?Do you think that working conditions have improved? If so, in what ways? How long do you plan to continue working where you are? How long have you been working at your present job? How many days a week do you work? How many hours a week do you work? How many times have you been promoted?When was the last time you were promoted?Did you get a large pay raise at that time? How much do you think a doctor should be paid a month?How about a secretary?How about a truck driver? How much money do you make? (Maybe this is not a good question to ask.) How much money does a secretary get paid per week? How old were you when you got your first job? How well do you get along with your boss? If you could own your own business, what would it be? If you had to choose between a satisfying job and a well-paid one, which would you choose? Is it common for men and women to have the same jobs in your country? Is it easy to find a job in Canada? How about in your country? Name three occupations that you could do. (For example, be a mortician)Name three occupations that you could never do? What are some common occupations in your country?What are some common jobs for men in your country?What are some common jobs for women in your country?What are some jobs that children do? What are some jobs that you think would be boring? What are some jobs that you think would be fun? What are some questions that are frequently asked in a job interview? What are you responsible for? What are you trying to do in order to find a job that you really like? What do you do? What do you like most about that job? What do you think is the best job? What do you think is the worst? What do you think would be the most interesting job? The most boring? What does your father do? (What does your father do for a living?) What does your mother do? What influenced your choice of job? (Why did you choose your job?) What job do you want to have in five years' time? What job would you most like to have, if social/cultural boundaries did not apply? (How different are they?) What job(s) do you wish to have in the future? What jobs in your country are considered to be good jobs? Why? What kind of volunteer work have you done? What kind of work do you do?What kind of work do you want to do in the future? What plans have you made for your retirement? What three adjectives would describe yourself as a worker? What time do you get home from work?Is it the same time every day? What time do your start and finish work? What would be your dream job?Do you think it would be possible for you to get this job? What's one job you wouldn't like to do? Why not? What's your brother's occupation? When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? When you were a child, what job did you want to have when you grew up? Where do you work and what is your current job? Where do you work? Which job are you best at? Which job would you never do? Which jobs do you think are the most prestigious? Who among the people you know has the most interesting job? What is it? Why did you leave your last job - did you resign or were you sacked? Would you be upset if your boss was a woman? Would you consider the military as a career choice? Why or why not? Would you consider yourself to be an ambitious person at work? Would you describe yourself as a workaholic? Would you like a job in which you traveled a lot? Would you like a job that required you to sit at a computer all day? Would you like to do the same job for the rest of your life? Would you like to work in an office? Why or why not? Would you rather be a doctor or a banker? Would you rather work inside or outside? What job would you most like to do? What are the names of some of the people with that job? Do you personally know any one with that job? How long do you plan to keep it for? When do plan to retire? What other fields or work will that job make you qualified for? What are the work details of that job; what will be your duties at that job? What steps are required from you to become a/an...? So, how long before fore you become a/an...; at what ages will you both start and finish this/each job/career? What do you hope to spiritually gain from that job? What do you wish to physically gain; what kind of things would you like to buy with your money? How much money do you need to make to fulfill you dreams and desires? If money weren't a problem for you, which job would you prefer to have? How does money affect your decisions? How do your wants and desires affect your career options and goals? How many years of schooling would you prefer to have? Can you improve on the way things are now being done in the field you choose? Which college courses are needed for you to be the very best in your field? Which college courses are required for you dream job? What other courses do you need to take so you can pursue your hobbies and personal interests? Which of the classes mentioned above are you giving the highest priority? Why? Who is the breadwinner (provider) in your family? Who makes the most money in your family? (This may not be a "polite" question to ask.) Is it common for people from your country to have one job for life? Do you see any unfair labour practices in your country's workforce? Do you have an after-school job? Would you like to have a management position? What are the pros and cons of being a manager? What are the qualities a good boss should have? What is a fair wage for the skills you have? Are there any jobs which can only be done by one gender?If so, what are they?What are some jobs that some people think only one gender can do, but can be done by either gender? What should you not do during a job interview? Who would you hire a employee with a lot of experience or an employee with a lot of education? Have you ever worked? Getting a Job What is the difference between work and a job? Do you have a job? How did you get it? Did you have to go to university to get it? What is the name of your job? Is it a popular job? Is it a job mainly for men, or for women? Did you need any special training to get your job? What type of special training did you need? How long and where was the training? Is it an indoor, or outdoor job? Which do you think most people prefer, indoor or outdoor jobs? Does your job pay a good salary? What are the advantages and disadvantages to your job? Which do you think are some of the more demanding jobs? Which are the least demanding jobs? Which jobs are badly paid? Which jobs are over-paid? Which job are more popular than others, and why? Is your job competitive? What about promotions? Is it too competitive? How is your relationship with your co-workers? Why would I choose you instead of the 50 others wanting this position? These were submitted as possible job interview questions. What degrees do you have? How much experience do you have? Where have you worked? Why did you choose this employment? How much would you like to earn? Have you ever worked in this field? Where would you like to work? Why? Why do you find your job interesting? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. of these questions come from textbooks Copyright © 1982-2000 by Charles Kelly & Lawrence Kelly (Used by Permission) Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Do you have any pets? What was the last book you read? Do you like to cook? What's your favorite food? Are you good at cooking/swimming/etc? Are you married or single? Do you have brothers and sisters?Are they older or younger than you? Do you like baseball? Do you live alone? Do you live in a house or an apartment? Have you ever lived in another country? Have you ever met a famous person? How do you spend your free time? How long have you been studying English? How old are you? How tall are you? Tell me about a favorite event of your adulthood. Tell me about a favorite event of your childhood. What are your hobbies? What two things could you not do when you were...? What countries have you visited? What country are you from? What do you do on Sundays? What do you do? What's your job? What do you like to do in your free time? What hobbies do you have? What is the nearest bus stop or train station to your house? What is your motto? What is your religion? (Perhaps not a good question in some situations.) What kind of food do you like? What kind of people do you like? What kind of people do you not like? What languages do you speak? What two things could you not do when you were a child, but you can do now? What's something you do well? What's your address? What's your father like? What's your mother like? What's your name? What's your phone number? What's your telephone number? When did you start to study English? Where are you from? Where do you live? Where do you live? How long have you lived there? Where were you born? Which sports do you like? Who do you live with? Who do you respect the most? Who has had the most influence in your life? Why did you decide to take this course? Why do you want to learn English? Would you like to be famous? What do you think you will be doing five years from now?Where do you think you'll be living five years from now? What is your goal in life? Are you a 'morning' or 'night' person? When do you feel best? In the morning, afternoon, or evening? How many cities have you lived in? What jobs have you done? Which do you prefer, sunrises or sunsets? What could you do as a child that you can't do now? Who is your next door neighbor in your home country?What is he or she like?Did you get along with each other? What is the best memory of our country that you will take back home with you? What is the worst memory of our country? How many times did you move as a child? Are you a task oriented person or a people oriented person? What is the profile of the wife/husband you would meet?What kind of woman/man would you like to marry? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. of these questions come from textbooks Copyright © 1982-2000 by Charles Kelly & Lawrence Kelly (Used by Permission) Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Restaurants, Fruits and Vegetables, Vegetarian, Diets, Tipping About how many different color foods did you eat for dinner last night?Do you think about color when you are preparing a meal? Are there any foods that you wouldn't eat as a child that you eat now? Are you a good cook? Are you a vegetarian? Are you concerned about your daily calorie intake when choosing something to eat? At what times do you usually eat your meals? Can you cook well? Did you drink coffee this morning? Did you eat lunch today? Do you always eat dinner with your family? Do you always eat vegetables? Do you cook? If yes, what food do you cook the most often? Do you drink milk every day? Do you drink tea every day? Do you eat beef? Do you eat bread every day?f Do you eat breakfast every day? Do you eat fruit every day? Do you eat lunch at school every day?How much does lunch usually cost at school? Do you bring your lunch to school? Do you eat rice every day? Do you ever skip breakfast? If so, how often and why? Do you have a favorite cafe? If so, where is it? Why do you like it? Do you have coffee for breakfast? Do you know someone who struggles with an eating disorder? Do you like Thai food? Chinese food? Spanish food?American food?Mozambican food?French food?Italian food?f Do you like Japanese food? What kind of Japanese food do you like? Do you like deep fried food? Do you like food from other countries? If yes, which do you like the most? Do you like peas and carrots? How about spinach? Do you like to cook? Why or why not? Do you like to eat a lot of food every day? Do you like to eat at fast food restaurants? Do you like to eat cakes? Do you like to eat junk food? Do you like to eat some desserts after dinner? Do you like to eat? Why or why not? Do you like to have breakfast each morning? Why or why not? Do you like to try new food and drinks? Do you often eat out? Do you prefer fish or meat? Do you prefer to eat at a restaurant or at home? Do you prefer your own country's food or other kinds of food? Do you read the nutritional information on the foods you buy? Do you take vitamin pills? Do you think a vegetarian diet is better than a diet that includes meat? Do you think fast food, soda and sweets should be sold in school cafeterias? Do you usually want to eat dessert after dinner? Have you ever been a diet? If so, how long did you stayed on it? Have you ever eaten dog meat? How long do you take to eat lunch? How many calories do most people need every day? How many meals do you usually eat every day? How much do you eat when you are sad or happy? How much does it cost to eat dinner at a hotel in your country? How much rice do you eat? How often do you eat at a fast-food restaurant? How often do you eat bread? How often do you eat fresh fruit? How often do you eat in a restaurant? (How often do you eat out?)Where do you usually go?Who do you usually go with?About how much do you spend?Do you ever go to an Indian restaurant? How often do you eat steak? How often do you go drinking? What's your favorite drink? How often do you go shopping for food? If you are living abroad, what is the food that you miss most from home? Is there any food that you really dislike to eat? What are some foods that are considered unhealthy? What are some foods that you know are healthy for your body? What country's food do you like the most? What did you eat for lunch yesterday? What did you eat the last time you ate at a restaurant? What did you have for breakfast this morning? What did you have for supper last night? What do you eat for breakfast every day? What do you eat when you feel sad? What do you like to drink? What do you like to eat for your dinner? What do you think of Thai food? Chinese food? English food? What do you usually eat for lunch? What do you usually like to drink when you go out? What food can you cook the best? What food do you hate? Why do you hate? What foods do you hate? What foods do you love? What foods have you tasted which you will never forget for the rest of your life? What fruit do you eat the most often? What have you eaten so far today? What is a typical meal from your country? What is one of your favorite foods? What is the cheapest place to eat that you know?About how much is a meal?Where is it?How often do you go there? What is the food you like about your country. What is the last meal you cooked for someone else? What is the most expensive meal you have ever eaten? What is the most expensive restaurant that you have ever been to?What did you eat there?When did you go?Who did you go with? What is the most unusual thing you've ever eaten. Did it taste good or bad? What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten? What is your favorite food?Please describe your favorite food. What is your favorite dessert? What is your favorite fast food restaurant? What is your opinion of Chinese food? American food? British food?India food? Greek food? What kind of beverages do you usually drink? What kind of desserts do you like to eat? What kind of food do like to eat when you are angry? What kind of food do you eat between meals? What kind of food do you like the most? What kind of food do you like to eat? What kind of food does your mother make? What kind of food that you think is the least healthy? What kind of food that you think is the most healthy? What kind of food you usually eat? What kind of fruit do you like the best? What kind of restaurants you like? What kind of vegetables do you like? What kinds of food do you usually eat for lunch? What restaurant in this city do you recommend?Why is it a good place?About how much does a meal cost? What special foods do you eat on holidays? (Christmas, New Year's Day, etc.) What time do you usually eat breakfast? How about lunch and supper? What vegetable do you like best? What's the best restaurant you've ever been to? What's the best restaurant you've ever been to? Why did you like it? What's the strangest food you've ever eaten? What's your favorite dessert? What's your favorite drink in the summer? What's your favorite fish? What's your favorite food? What's your favorite fruit? What's your favorite junk food? What's your favorite kind of ethnic food? What's your favorite kind of food? What's your favorite kind of meat? What's your favorite restaurant? Why do you like it? What's your favorite snack? When was the last time you ate at a restaurant? When was the last time you ate dinner with your mother? Where do you usually eat dinner? Breakfast? Lunch? Dinner? Which country's food do you like the most? Which do you eat more often, rice, bread or potatoes? Which fast food restaurants do like? Which fast food restaurants do you eat at the most often? Who do you usually eat dinner with? Why are diets usually short? Why can't people stop eating? Why do you think obesity is becoming such a problem in the United States and throughout the world? What do Chinese people eat for lunch?(Substitute the nationality of your students.) Do you know the nutritional value of the things you eat every day? Do you believe that "we are what we eat?" How many meals a day do you think should be eaten? Do you usually eat at home or eat at a restaurant? Can you name a spice or flavoring that is good for your health? If you were on death row, what would you request for your last meal? Do you pray before each meal? Have you ever eaten something that made you ill? How many calories are in one hamburger?If you don't know, can you make a guess? Is it more or less than an ice-cream cone? Have you ever had pot-luck? Have you ever tasted African food? Does your family have any special recipes that are passed down from generation to generation? What would you bring to a pot-luck lunch? Do you like brunch? How much should you tip the server in a restaurant? What type of restaurants would you not tip in? Have you ever found something disgusting in your food? Have you ever sent food back in a restaurant? Have you ever left a restaurant without paying ("dined and dashed")? Do you like trying new foods? What new foods have you tried this month? What is the strangest food you have ever tried? Do you have any food allergies? Which food from this country do you like the least? What do you think about super-sizing? Should fast food restaurants serve healthier food? Are food portions too big for our health? What food would you like to see in a restaurant in this country? Do you think it is good to count calories when you are eating? Which food is overpriced? What differences do you notice in the preparation of American/British/Australian and Chinese/Japanese/Korean foods? Do the utensils we use to eat affect the kind or way we prepare the foods we eat? Do you think that food defines a culture? If so, how? Do you notice any differences in the way food is served at the table when you travel? Do you enjoy eating intestines? (Substitute in other foods that students are not likely to enjoy.) How does the etiquette of eating together in your country differ from other countries? Are there any foods that bring back special memories for you? What are they? What can you do when a fishbone is caught in your throat? If you were invited to a fancy dinner with the president or a celebrity, what would you do to prepare? Name a spice or flavoring that is good for your health? What to do when you cut your finger preparing food? Have you ever thought food was your only friend? What types of foods do Japanese people eat? What types of foods do Chinese people eat? How often do you have unhealthy food? When you are alone do you always cook a meal. Pizza Do you like pizza? What is your favorite pizza topping? How often do you eat pizza at a restaurant? How often do you order pizza to your home? Are there pizzerias near your home that deliver pizzas? What do you like to drink with your pizza? Do you know how to make a pizza? Do you know who invented the pizza? Why is pizza popular? Have you ever called for pizza delivery? How do you make pizza at home? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. of these questions come from textbooks Copyright © 1982-2000 by Charles Kelly & Lawrence Kelly (Used by Permission) Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Marriage, Weddings These questions are also divided into pages: Dating and Marriage Related: Single Life About how many guests attended your wedding?How many guests would you invite to your wedding? At what age do most people in your country get married? At what age do you want to get married?At what age did you get married? Describe a perfect date. Describe the appearance of the person you would like to date? Describe the character of the person you would like to date? Do women usually work after getting married in your country? Do you "go Dutch" when dating? Do you know what it means to 'go Dutch'? Is it usual for people in your country to 'go Dutch' if you go out together? Do older girls/boys have a problem dating younger girls/boys?Do younger girls/boys have a problem dating older girls/boys? Do you believe in love at first sight?Do you think some people know that they will fall in love with someone the first time they meet? Do you know what a 'blind date' is? Have you ever been on a blind date? Did you ever arrange a blind date? Do you drive or take the train when dating? Do you get along with your in-laws? Do you have a boyfriend/girlfriend?Where did you meet your him/her?What does he/she look like? Do you know anyone who has had an arranged marriage? Do you know someone who has gotten a divorce? Do you know the difference between love and like?Can you still love your partner and not like him/her? Do you think a boy should pay for everything on a date? Do you think arranged marriages are a good idea? Why or why not?What is your opinion of arranged marriages? Do you think fairy tales influence our choice of a partner? Do you think getting married means giving up freedom? Do you think if you get married that you will change? Do you think it is better to be single or to be married? Do you think it is good to get married? Do you think it is okay for a couple to live together before getting married? Why or Why not? Do you think it is okay to marry someone of a different race? Do you think it is okay to marry someone with a different religion? Do you think it's OK for a man to have two wives? Do you think it's OK for a wife to have two husbands? Do you think it's okay for a man to have a mistress? Do you think it's okay for a man to hit his wife? Do you think love is necessary to have a good marriage? Do you think marriage is necessary? Do you think marriages based on love are more successful than arranged marriages? Do you think marriage is very stressful for women? How about for men? Do you think people change after getting married? Do you think religion influences marriage? If so, in what ways? Do you think that all adults should be married? Do you think that you can you find eternal love through the Internet? Do you want a husband or wife who is older, younger or the same age as you? Do you want to have children? Have you ever been to a school dance? Have you ever had a crush on someone? Have you ever hated loving someone? Have your parents ever disapproved of any of your relationships? How long do you think couples should know each other before they get married? How many children would you like to have? How often would you like to go out on dates? How old were you when you had your first boyfriend or girlfriend? How old were you when you went on your first date? Where did you go?What did you do?Who did you go with? How old were your parents when they got married? If your husband or wife has an affair what would you do? If your parents did not approve of a person you loved and wanted to marry, would that be a difficult situation for you? Why or why not? Is going out on dates important for you? Is there a such thing as a perfect relationship for you? If you could go out with anyone, who would it be? If you are a man, and a woman asks you for a date, do you feel you should pay, or that the woman should pay? If you had to marry either a poor man whom you really loved, or a rich man whom you did not love, which would you choose? If you had to choose to live with someone who truly loves you but you don't love him back or to live alone for a rest of your life loving someone that doesn't love you who would you choose? What advice would you give to someone whose partner hates their best friend? What age do you think is best for getting married? What are some dating and marriage customs in your country? What are some of the main reasons people get divorced? What are some popular places to go on a date? What are some qualities that you think are important in a spouse or partner? What characteristics do you look for in a girlfriend or boyfriend? What do you consider cheating in a dating relationship? What do you like to talk about when on a date? What do you look for in a girlfriend or a boyfriend? What do you think most people talk about when dating? What do you think of people who get divorced?Would you ever consider getting divorced? What do you think of same-sex marriages? What do you think of single mothers? What is a wedding ceremony like in your country? What is the best way to keep your spouse happy in the marriage? What kind of boy or girl do you like? What kind of clothes do you wear on a date? What kind of man do you want as a husband? What kind of person do you want to get married to? What kind of woman do you want as a wife? What makes a good husband/wife? What makes a happy marriage?What do you think are some things that contribute to a successful marriage? What qualities are important to you in a boyfriend or girlfriend? What qualities in a partner are important to you? What was the most boring date you've ever been on? What was the most interesting date you've ever been on? What would you consider "the perfect date" for you? What would you do if your soon to be mother-in-law seems to hate you? What would your parents think if you don't get married? When did your parents get married? Where do you want to go for your honeymoon?Where did you go for your honeymoon? Where do you want to go on your honeymoon? Where is a good pace to go on a date in this town? Where would you like to go on a date? Which is more important for you, your job or your marriage? Why do people break up with their partners? Will you continue working after you get married? Would you date someone you really liked if your parents did not like him or her? Would you ever marry someone who has been divorced twice? Would you introduce your date to your family? Would you live with your parents after you get married? Would you marry someone from another country? Would you marry someone ten years older than you? How about ten years younger than you? Would you marry someone that your parents didn't like? Would you marry someone who couldn't speak the same language as you speak? Would you mind if your boyfriend or girlfriend went out to party without you? Would you prefer to go out with a quiet or a talkative person? At what age do you think that dating should begin?Do you think there is any age when a person is too old to date? Do you know a happily married couple? Can you name a famous happily married couple? What do you think is the most important ingredient in a good marriage? How long is the marriage ceremony in your country? Who designed the marriage covenant? What do you think about dating a friend's ex-girlfriend or ex-boyfriend? Does your first love still hold a special place in your heart? Do you believe that he or she will always have a special place in your heart? What qualities do you look in your partner? Do you think its possible to wait for the man or woman you love while he or she is in jail? What is your definition of love? Would you wait on a person you were dating for a long time if they joined the army?How about if they went to prison? What is the best season to get married? Do you know anybody who has two families at the same time and supports them both? How many families can you have in your country? Are there any superstitions on making someone fall in love with you?Have you heard of any successful "love potions?" Have you ever returned a gift to your boyfriend or girlfriend and later find out that he has given it to his or her new mate? Do you know of any superstitions connected with weddings? Would it be important for you to have a "white wedding dress'? Can you control your partner by playing games? Why do you think the bride's maids wear white. When should you introduce your boyfriend or girlfriend to your parents?When you begin dating After you have been together for a while Only when the relationship is serious? Why? Do you like to have boy friend or girl friend in your school or in your classes? Do you think it is right to continue seeing a person if he has not introduced you to his family yet? In your opinion is marriage for life?Do you think when people get married it is really until death? How long does it take for dating to become a relationship? Is it important to be punctual in your first date? Why? Would you dress up for a first date? What clothes would you wear? What kind of place do you think is the ideal for a first date? Why do you think so? What are your country's norms or laws on displays of public affection? Do you think it is okay for couples to kiss in public? How would you feel if your boyfriend liked to keep company with a female friend when you're not there? How would you feel if your girlfriend liked to keep company with a male friend when you're not there? If you could go back to your past love, and change what went wrong, who would it be? Who do you love? If you had to choose to live with someone who truly loves you but you don't love him back or to live alone for a rest of your life loving someone that doesn't love you what would you choose? What would you change, if you are given only one chance to do it ? Whose heart did you break most ? Did you apologize from him\her ? Have you ever met someone you love a lot but never expressed it? If your parents forced you to get married with a person who you don't love, what would you do in this situation? If your boyfriend/girlfriend dated another person, then he/she wanted to return and date you, would you date again? If your boyfriend/girlfriend dated your close friend, what would you do? Do you believe that having a permanent love between two person who are living in two different countries is possible? Do you want your husband to know how you looked as a child? Why or why not? Do you believe in love at first sight or love after the first night? International Marriage Would you marry someone of another nationality? Are your parents of the same nationality? What are some advantages of an international marriage? What are some disadvantages? Do you want to have an international marriage? Do you know anyone who married someone from a different country? If yes, what is their experience like? Do you think it is more difficult to marry someone from a different country? How would your parents feel if you married someone from a different country? Do you think that it is good for children to have parents from two different countries? Why? Why not? The following question may be considered inappropriate in some situations. Do you think that gay people should be allowed to marry? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. of these questions come from textbooks Copyright © 1982-2000 by Charles Kelly & Lawrence Kelly (Used by Permission) Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Do you have enough free time? Do you have free time on Sundays? Do you have much free time during the day? Do you have much free time in the evenings? Do you have much free time in the mornings? Do you like to watch movies? (...like to play tennis, ...) What are you doing this weekend? What did you do last summer vacation? What did you do last weekend? What do you do in your free time? What hobbies do you have? When do you have free time? (How do you spend your free time?) Where do you spend your free time? Who do you spend your free time with? How do you like to spend your free time? going shopping? going to the cinema? chatting? playing computer games going to the disco? playing sports?reading? relaxing? If you had more free time, what would you do with it? Tell me about some good places to hang out. Where do young people in this country usually spend their free time? Would you like to have more free time? What would you like to give up so that you could have more free time? How do the women in your family usually spend their free time? How do the men in your family usually spend their free time? Do men and women spend their free time differently? How? If it were suddenly announced that tomorrow was a national holiday, what would you do? What do you do on Saturdays? Do people's leisure time activities change as they get older? How? Who do you like to spend your leisure time with? Do you like gossiping in your free time? Who do you gossip with? Who do you gossip about? What do you really hate having to do in your free time? What new activity would you like to try doing in your free time? Do you ever feel that you waste your free time? How? What can you do about this? Do you find that your works or studies takes up your free time? Are there any activities that you used to do but don't do anymore? Do you have a hobby? What are your hobbies? How long have you had your hobby? Which hobbies are the most expensive? Which hobbies are the cheapest? Which hobbies cost nothing at all? Which hobbies are the most popular in your country? Is hunting a hobby or a sport in your country? Which hobbies are the most popular with women in your country? With men? Did you have any hobbies when you were a child? Can you think of any hobbies which are popular with children and adults? Do you think a hobby is different from a sport? Are there any hobbies you would like to try? Are there any dangerous hobbies? Are there any hobbies you can do in other countries, but not your own? Which hobbies do you think are the most difficult? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Recognizing Stress What is stress? What causes stress? How do you recognize stress in your life? Have you been under stress recently? How does stress affect you? Do you have a kind of red warning flag that indicates too much stress? When you are stressful, how do you feel physically? Do you feel tired during the day? Can you sleep well at night? Does your stomach hurt? How do you feel emotionally? Do you feel nervous or worried about stressful situations? Do you get angry easily? Helping Others Have you ever helped someone who was feeling stressful? What did you do? Did you give them advice? Did you listen to them? Did you do most of the talking? Did you take some action to help them? Have you ever helped someone that you didn't know? What are characteristics of a good counselor?Is it necessary to have shared the same experience?Is it important to be an expert?Is it important to be patient? Healthy Stress Do you think stress is ever good, useful, or necessary? Do you play games or sports that are sometimes stressful? When can stress be a good thing?If you are playing a sport and your team is losing, does it give you extra energy? Does stress make you feel more alive? Is your home life stressful? Are you busy at home? Can you relax at home? Do you enjoy having discussions about politics with other people who have different opinions? Do you like to argue about different ways to do things at work or at home? Personal Have you felt stress recently? Did the stressful feeling last a long time or a short time?Had the cause of the stress happened to you before or was this a new situation? How often do you think you feel too much stress? Do you feel too busy sometimes? In what way does a too full schedule lead to stress? Do you like being busy? If you are very busy at work or at school, do you have ways to balance your life? If you have nothing to do, do you enjoy yourself or do you get bored? Does stress make it hard for you to think or act? How can you judge what is the right amount of stress for you? Is your stress caused by relationships with other people? At work? At school? At home? With best friends? With partners? Can you think of some examples? Does stress come when you worry about your life? Do you keep your worries a secret from other people? Do you have anyone you can talk to when you are worried? When did we start talking about stress as a psychological condition? What do you do when you have stress? Stressful Situations Are there situations that you find stressful? Do you feel tense when you meet someone for the first time? Do you get nervous if you have to make a speech? Do you suffer from stress when you have too much work to do? Do you work or study for long hours under stressful conditions? Does the place you live have a low-stress environment? Can you be alone as much as you like? Can you be with friends as often as you like? Is it easy for you to make decisions about important things? Can you relax when you are sleeping away from home? In what kinds of situations do you observe other people feeling stressed? What are some situations that you enjoy? What are some situations that make you feel stressful? How can you eliminate stressful situations? Plan a low stress, cheap, one day holiday. Controlling Stress How do you relieve stress? What stresses you out? Do you have a stressful lifestyle? How can you eliminate stressful situations? How do you get control of a stressful situation that is getting too tough? What is the "fight or flight" response? How does it relate to stress? Do you enjoy the feeling of being stressed? If you are feeling stressed, what do you do? Do you like to relax or be active when stressful? Are you capable of relieving your stress or do you need help? Can alcohol cure stress temporarily? Living Stress Free How can you live a stress free life? Can you give five suggestions that would be inexpensive? Can you give five suggestions for children? Can you give five suggestions for the wintertime? Give us suggestions for making school life less stressful. When stressful do you like to listen to a certain kind of music? Does it help to go shopping or take a long walk? Do you like to be alone or be with other people? Do you eat more or eat less? Do certain colors make you feel happier? Do you always follow the same pattern to relieve stress or do you try different things? What are some positive ways people deal with stress? What are some negative ways people deal with stress? How do you deal with stress? What is the most stressful experience you have ever had? When was the most stressful time of your life? Did you learn anything from that experience? What do you think is the greatest cause of stress for most people? What is your greatest cause of stress? Do you deal with stress differently that your parents do/did? If so, how? Do you know of anyone who likes to break things or become violent when they are stressed? What have they broken? What kind of violence do they do? What is the most stressful job you can think of? What is the least stressful job you can think of? Which would you choose: A stressful job with very high pay or a relaxing job with considerably low pay? Why? Is being single less stressful than married life? What are the advantages and disadvantages of each? How do you reduce stress in your life? Do you think they would be considered good or bad ways of dealing with stress? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Photography What is your hobby? How long have you had a hobby? Why do people have hobbies? Why did you start your hobby? Can you make money from doing your hobby? How many hours a week do you spend on your hobby? Is your hobby safe or dangerous? What is a hobby? Why do people need hobbies? What can one do as a hobby? How much time can one spend on his/her hobby? What is your hobby? Does your hobby interfere with your work/study/personal life? Do you spend money on your hobby? Does your hobby influence your choice of friends? Can a hobby save a child from bad peer influence? Can a hobby be dangerous? Have you got a hobby? How long have you had your hobby? Which hobbies are the most expensive? Which hobbies are the cheapest? Which hobbies cost nothing at all? Which hobbies are the most popular in your country? Is hunting a hobby or a sport in your country? Which hobbies are the most popular with women in your country? With men? Did you have any hobbies when you were a child? Can you think of any hobbies which are popular with children and adults? Do you think a hobby is different from a sport? Are there any hobbies you would like to try? Are there any dangerous hobbies? Are there any hobbies you can do in other countries, but not your own? Which hobbies do you think are the most difficult? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Have you ever appreciated a sunset?Were you alone or with someone special? Have you ever been a guest at a surprise party?Has anyone ever thrown a surprise party for you? Have you ever been in a fist fight? Have you ever been on TV? Have you ever been to a theatre? (Also spelling "theater.") Have you ever broken a bone? Have you ever broken up with someone? Have you ever called your boyfriend or girlfriend by the wrong name? Have you ever called your girlfriend/boyfriend "Honey?" Have you ever changed your appearance a lot in a short time? (For example, hair style, hair color or weight) Have you ever cheated on an exam? Have you ever cried in public and embarrassed yourself?Have you ever cried for no reason and felt good because of it? Have you ever dated someone from another race, culture or religion?Have you ever dated someone who didn't like you?Have you ever dated a relative by accident? Have you ever done something silly that you wish you had not done? Have you ever driven a sports car?Have you ever driven a truck? Have you ever eaten in a restaurant and realized you have no money with you? Have you ever finished eating in a restaurant, and you realized you forgot your wallet? Have you ever eaten something that you thought you wouldn't like, but found out that you actually liked it? Have you ever eaten frog legs?Have you ever eaten horse meat?Have you ever eaten French food? (Substitute other countries' food, too.) Have you ever fallen asleep and forgotten where you were? Have you ever fallen asleep while taking a bath? Have you ever fallen down the stairs? Have you ever fallen in love at first sight? Have you ever fallen or stumbled in front of others. Have you ever forgotten your mother's birthday?Father's?Girlfriend's?Boyfriend's?Husband's?Wife's? Have you ever given a false excuse to get out of something you didn't want to do? If so, tell us about it. Have you ever given a ring (or other jewelry) to your girlfriend/boyfriend? Have you ever gone mountain climbing? Have you ever gone skiing? Have you ever gone surfing? Have you ever dreamt of a ghost being in your bedroom and then waking up and finding yourself looking around for the ghost? Have you ever gone to greet a friend or family member then noticed it was someone else? Have you ever gotten sunburnt at the tanning saloon and gone back the next day? Have you ever had a Deja Vu experience? Have you ever made cheesecake?Have you ever made Chinese food? Have you ever roasted a turkey?Have you ever baked bread? Have you ever met a celebrity? Have you ever played a joke on one of your teachers?How about one of your classmates? Have you ever raised your hand to answer a question, then forgot what you were going to say? Have you ever received a present that you really hated?What was it?Why did you hate it?Who gave it to you? Have you ever regretted saying I love you? Have you ever ridden a horse? Have you ever ridden a motorcycle? Have you ever said yes when you meant no? Have you ever slept in a cave? Have you ever slept in a tent? Have you ever swum in the ocean? Have you ever talked to a famous person?Who was the person?How long did you talk?What did you talk about? Have you ever thought of something funny and started laughing out loud in the presence of others? Have you ever told a big lie to someone you love? Have you ever tried in-line skating? Have you ever tried riding a skateboard? Have you ever guessed someone's age wrong (younger or older)? How did the person respond? Have you ever been in the shower when there was an earthquake? Have you ever ripped off your pants while dancing? Have you ever kissed somebody by mistake? Have you ever laughed until tears came from your eyes? Have you ever fallen asleep while talking on the phone? Have you ever sprained your ankle/wrist? How did it happen? Have you ever written an article for a newspaper?If so, when was it and what was the article about? Have you ever seen a car accident? Have you ever called your school's principal? Have you ever received more than 10 cards on Valentines day? Have you ever been on the radio or television? Have you ever ridden on an ostrich? A camel? A cow? Have you ever shaken hands with a monkey? Have you ever received a love letter? Have you ever seen a tornado? Have you ever had an electricity blackout while taking a shower? Have you ever picked you're nose in public? Have you ever been on the radio? T.V? Have you ever ridden on an ostrich? Have you ever milked a cow? Have you ever built an igloo? Have you ever tried any extreme sports? Have you ever shot a gun at a tree or a target? Have you ever played an instrument in public? Have you ever sung in public? Have you ever talked "baby-talk" to your pet? Have you ever given special nicknames to your pet that were completely different than their first given name? Have you ever kept special treats for your pet? Have you ever kept a special blanket or bed for your pet to sleep on? Have you ever let your pet sleep in or on your bed with you? Have you ever hitchhiked? Have you ever fainted? Have you ever been mugged? Have you ever played in a movie? Have you ever called a female teacher "mum" by mistake? Have you ever wanted to eat toothpaste? Have you ever been to a funeral? Have you ever been to a wedding? whose was it? Did the bride wear a white dress or a traditional clothing? Have you ever been trapped in an elevator? Have you ever made somebody cry? Have you ever seen your mother / your father cry? Have you ever fired a gun? Have you ever been inside a police car? Have you ever had to dial 911/111/119... (emergency services)? Have you ever fainted in a public place? Have you ever wondered why Asians can't speak English? Have you ever walked into a window because it was just that clean? Have you ever met someone who has six fingers? Have you ever cook for more than 20 people? Have you ever traveled without paying for the ticket? Have you ever sung in public? Have you ever been outside your comfort zone? How did you feel? What is your comfort zone? When do you feel the most comfortable? Have you ever walked into a lamppost? Have you ever wondered why some people want to be alone but never seem to be lonely? Why do you think this is so? Have you ever tried to eat food without first spitting out your chewing gum? Have you ever saved a piece of chewed chewing gum and started chewing it again later? Have you ever called a 'he' she or a 'she' a 'he?' What was the response? Have you ever called a women sir or a Man "ma'am?" Have you ever asked a woman when she was "due" and she wasn't even pregnant? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. Thanks to Erica Box who suggested this topic and contributed the first 17 questions in February 2002. Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal If this is your first time here, then read the Teacher's Guide to Using These Pages If you can think of a good question for any list, please send it to us. Home | Articles | Lessons | Techniques | Questions | Games | Jokes | Things for Teachers | Links | Activities for ESL Students Would you like to help? If you can think of a good question for any list, please send it to us. If you would like to suggest another topic, please send it and a set of questions to begin the topic. Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal Pages from this site should not be put online elsewhere.Permission is not required to link directly to any page on our site as long as you do not trap the page inside a frame. Once we upload a page, the page remains online and the URL will not be changed. A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. If you had only 24 hours to live, what would you do? If a classmate asked you for the answer to a question during an exam while the teacher was not looking, what would you do? If someone's underwear was showing, would you tell them? If the whole world were listening, what would you say? If one song were to describe your life, what song would it be? If you bumped your car into another car, but nobody saw you do it, would you leave your name and address? If you could ask God any one question, what would it be? If you could be an animal, what animal would you be? If you could be a bird, what bird would you choose to be? If you could be a plant,