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A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Are you a member of a health spa or gym? Are you afraid of needles? Are you healthy? Are your parents healthy? Do think that you need to lose weight? Do you always eat healthy food? Do you bruise easily? Do you catch a cold more than once a year? Do you consider alcohol a drug? Do you drink a lot? Do you eat a lot of vegetables? Do you eat lots of fruit? Do you eat vegetables every day? Do you ever get headaches? Do you know anyone who suffers from migraine headaches? Do you ever read magazines or news articles about health? If yes, what subject(s) do you find the most interesting? Do you exercise?What kind of exercise do you do?How often do you exercise? Do you go for regular medical check-ups? Do you go to the dentist's twice a year? Do you have a lot of stress? Do you normally go one doctor in particular or any available doctor? Do you have any allergies? Do you have any scars?Where are they? Would you like to show them to the class? Do you know anyone who suffers from backaches? Do you know anyone with false teeth? Do you often eat fast food? Do you smoke?If so, do you smoke more than two cigarettes a day?Do you think smoking is not bad for your health? Do you take medicine when you are sick? Do you take vitamins or mineral supplements? Do you take vitamins? Do you think it is unhealthy to keep a cat in your home? Do you think nuclear power is safe? Do you think pets are good for a person's health Do you think that the tobacco companies should be held reasonably responsible for a person's addiction to nicotine? Do you think you are overweight? Do you think you will live until a ripe old age? Why or why not? Do you think you would be a good surgeon? Why or why not? Do you use an alarm clock to wake up? Do you usually get enough sleep? Do you watch your weight? What foods do you think are healthy? Have you ever been hospitalized?(Have you ever been in the hospital?) Have you ever been to an acupuncturist? What do you think of acupuncture? Have you ever broken a bone? Have you ever burned yourself with hot water? Have you ever donated blood? Have you ever gotten a black eye? Have you ever had braces on your teeth? Have you ever had stitches? Have you ever sprained your ankle? Have you ever taken a sleeping pill to get to sleep? How can you reduce stress in your life? How have you been feeling lately? How many hours of sleep do you get a night? How many hours of sleep do you usually get? How often do you eat junk food?What kinds of junk food do you eat? How often do you exercise? How often do you get a cold?(How often do you catch a cold?) How often do you get sick in one year? How often do you go to the doctor's? How often is garbage collected in your neighborhood? How would you recommend treating a cold? If a company sells the public a product they know to be harmful or addictive, should they be held responsible for the use of that product even if the government approves it? If you smoke, how old were you when you started smoking? If you were President of Korea, what would you do to improve Koreans' health? Should smoking in restaurants be banned? What are some things people can do to keep healthy? What are some things that cause stress? What are some ways to deal with stress? What are some ways you know that you can personally keep yourself healthy? What disease frightens you the most? Why? What do you do to stay healthy?(What are some things you do to keep healthy?) What do you do, if you can't get to sleep? What do you think about abortion? Why do some people support it and others are against it? What do you think about getting old? What do you think is the most serious health problem in Korea? What do you think of cosmetic surgery? Do you know anyone who has had cosmetic surgery? Would you ever consider having cosmetic surgery? What drinks to you think are healthy? What drinks do you think are unhealthy? What foods to you think are healthy? What foods do you think are unhealthy? What is the best way to find a doctor, if you're new in the area? What is the best way to stop smoking? What is the most horrible accident you have ever had? What is the average age of people in your country What kind of pollution is the most risky? What time did you go to bed when you were a child? What's the best way to stop smoking? What's the highest temperature you've ever had? What's your blood type? When did you last take a bath? When was the last time you went to a dentist? When was the last time you went to a doctor? When was the last time you went to a hospital? When was the last time you were sick? When you were in high school, how many days of school did you miss each year because of sickness? Who do you think is responsible for the care of your health--you yourself, your parents, or your doctor and medical people? Who is the healthiest person in your family? Who is the least healthy? Why do people smoke? Would you consider donating your organs after your death? What is the health service like in your country? What do you think of the health service in this country? How can the health service be improved? Have you been to hospital since you arrived here? What do you know about the SARS virus?What do you know about AIDS?What do you know about the common cold? What is alternative medicine?Have you ever practiced alternative medicine? What treatments or remedies do you follow when you have a cold? which kind of medicine do you prefer to take when you are sick? How often do you clean your bathroom? Do you clean as often as your parent cleaned when you were a child? Which parent did/does most of the cleaning in your household? How old were you when you had start helping with the dishes/laundry/vacuuming/dusting/? Were the chores divided equally between men and women? Do people in your country usually wear deodorant? How often do people in your country shower? Have you ever ended a relationship because your partner cleaned too much or too little? Have you ever ended a relationship because your partner had bad hygiene? Do you enjoy cleaning? Which kind of cleaning do you enjoy most? How often do you brush your teeth? Have you ever swept something under the rug? Do you use strong cleaners like bleach and ammonia? Have you ever bought a miracle cleaner from a TV infomercial? What's the best way to get stains out? What alternative health therapies do you know about? Have you ever tried any alternative health therapies? Do you think traditional medicine is a good alternative to modern medicine? In what circumstances should traditional or alternative medicine be used? Do you think traditional therapies are compatible with modern medicine? Why or why not? What are the advantages or disadvantages of modern medicine? What are the advantages or disadvantages of traditional medicine? What do you complain of? What is wrong with you? Have you any appetite? How long have you been ill? Have you any pain the back of your head? How long has it been since you began to feel bad? Have you a bitter taste in your mouth? Do you feel nauseous? Do you sleep well? Is it hard to swallow? Do we need to eat as much junk food as we do? Have you ever realized during a dream that it is a dream; and have you then been able to change events in that dream? Do you think the government is doing all it can to prevent disease? What do you think of wellness institutions and their programs? How do you deal with stress? 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 First click Restaurant Row to get to the home page. Then, in the upper left hand corner of the restaurantrow.com page type Chicago into the city or zip window. Then click GO. There are three cities called Chicago. Click Chicago, IL. There are more than 1500 restaurants in Chicago, IL. Go to the All Cuisines window, click the arrows on the right side of the window, choose Japanese, and click go. Now we can see the names, addresses, and the telephone mumbers of more than ten Japanese restaurants. We can click to see menus, photos, maps, directions, and reviews of each restaurant. First click Restaurant Row to get to the home page. Then, from the left side of the page under OTHER SEARCHES click NEIGHBORHOOD. Then click on San Francisco. On this page there are a lot of things to select and click. In the Select your neighborhood window select Japantown. In the How many miles will you travel? window select 1. (One mile is about a twenty minute walk.) In the What cuisine would you like? window select Seafood. In the What Ambience would you prefer? window select Great Views. In the Any special features you'd like? window select Credit Cards. In the How about entertainment? window select Live Music. Finally, click search. We have found at least one restaurant. If we want to find more we could go back and click a bigger number for the How many miles will you travel? window. A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Fruits and Vegetables, Vegetarian, Diets, Food & Eating, Tipping How often do you eat out? Where do you usually go when you eat out? How much do you usually pay when you eat out? Who do you usually go with when you eat out? Do you like western food? Can you name restaurants in this area that serve food from other countries?What kinds of foods do these restaurants serve?Have you ever eaten at any of them? Do you ever eat greasy food? Do you know how to order food in English?Have you ever done so?If so, was it easy to do so? Do you ever eat at McDonalds? KFC? Other fast food restaurants? What is your favorite appetizer? Do you ever drink alcoholic beverages when you eat out?If so, what do you drink? Do you know what a Caesar salad is? Buffalo wings? Nachos? Chicken fried steak? Did you enjoy eating out in other countries you have visited?Which country had the best food?Which foods did you enjoy the most?Did you think the cost was high or low? Do you know anyone who has owned a restaurant? Have you ever worked in a restaurant?If so, what kind of restaurant?How long did you work there?Did you enjoy your job? How many different types of salad dressing can you name? Do you worry about calories and fat content when you eat out?How about cholesterol ?How about insecticides and other chemicals in your food? Would you send a dish back if it did not taste good or if you received the wrong food? Do you ever leave a tip at a restaurant? How much? In what ways have people's eating habits changed over the years?How have your eating habits changed over the years? Have your eating habits change this last year? Do you think western food is too expensive? Why or why not? Have you ever had a restaurant cater a party at your house?If not, would you consider it? If so, were you happy with the service?Would you do it again?What kind of food did they serve? Who pays when you go out for dinner? What's the worst experience you ever had at a restaurant? What's the most disgusting food you ever ate in a restaurant? Do you like eating at buffets? Why or why not?Where was the best buffet you've ever eaten at? What kinds of foods were there? Have you ever eaten at an all you can eat restaurant?Did you eat too much?Do you think it was a good value?Was the taste as good as a regular restaurant? Why do you think westerners are usually heavier than Asians? Do you ever order out from a restaurant? Do you think this area has a good variety of foreign restaurants?What other kinds of restaurants would you like to see opened? Can kids eat free at any of the restaurants you go to?Do senior citizens get a discount?Are there times of the day when anyone can get a discount? Have you ever been to a restaurant with valet service? Do you like to try new restaurants, or do you prefer to go to those you have already been to? Why? Do you care what a restaurant looks like, or is the food the only thing you care about? What types of take out food do you enjoy eating? What do you think about children crying in a restaurant when you are trying to eat? What do you think about people smoking in a restaurant when you are trying to eat?What would you think if you saw the cook at the restaurant smoking while he is cooking your food? Do you prefer fresh ingredients prepared by a chef as you order or do you prefer pre-cooked food? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. Copyright(C) 1997-2005 by The Internet TESL Journal (Hint: Click on Academics) Is there a Department of Statistics? What's its email address? (Hint: Start over on Harvard home page. You will need to click on the links to Campus Life and then Student Resources. Scroll down the bar and check Student Services and then Libs & Museums to find the answer to the questions below.) What types of student financial services does Harvard offer? To whom should you address questions about financial aid? What time is The Observatory Cart open on weekdays? How many restaurants are listed under Boston Campus? Which ones are not located at the Harvard School of Public Health? When was the Botanical Museum founded? What is Harvard's oldest art museum? If you're interested in prehistoric and historic cultures, which museum should you visit? (Hint: You will find the links searching the Main Page.) Where do you find information about events & reunion? How often is Bulletin of Yale University published? Can you find information on resources for visitors to Yale on this page? (Hint: You'll need to click on the links to Yale & New Haven and to Admissions to answer the next questions.) Guided Tours are offered Monday - Friday, 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m. Is this statement correct? How much does a tour guide charge to show the campus to a group of 20 visitors? What's the pre-requisite to apply for a doctoral degree program at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies? How many student representatives are elected to participate in the administration of the Yale Law School? To apply for a summer program at Yale, what is the minimum TOEFL score required on the computer-based test for an applicant whose first language is not English? (Hint: Click on Living at Yale and then on Student Resources.) If a student ID card is stolen who should the student report the fact to? What color is the frame around the photo of the Yale Faculty Card? If you are an employer seeking to post a job for graduating students, should you contact the Student Employment Office? Copyright (C) 1998-2001 by Vera Mello (vcqm@ruralsp.com.br) Last updated: May 1, 2001 Visit Treasure Hunts for ESL Students to find more treasure hunts.Please report "not found" links to Email Submission Form Tell Me More - Teacher's Notes Teaching aims: Input: Giving directions Directions language Recycle: "How ... ?" questions "Have you ever ... ?" "Wh" questions Free Talking: Comments: This chapter is once more concerned with "survival" in an English-speaking community. When abroad (or when talking to English-speaking foreigners in Korea) students will need to be able to give and receive directions, and to do this efficiently, since a minor slip in giving or listening to directions can have major results (the desired location will not be found!). The aim here is therefore to present directions simply, clearly, and unambiguously. Students should be progressing noticeably by now, and should also be familiar with the various types of activities which appear in each chapter. Teachers are therefore encouraged to allow them not only to get started by themselves in each lesson, but also to choose the activities and the rate at which they work through them. Page 129 The title page presents input in terms of "Clothes" vocabulary, as well as useful phrases for use in "Shopping" role-plays. 2) "Go straight ahead" Pairs (10 minutes)Page 130 The function of "Giving Directions" is often characterized by lack of clarity and confusion, so the aim here is to present some simple guidelines for students. There are many ways of giving instructions, but the ones offered here will always be effective and unambiguous. The first step is to direct one's partner through a maze, simply using "Go straight ahead", "Turn left" and "Turn right". Students night need to be reminded that "Turn right" does not mean "Turn right and go straight ahead"! 3) "You can't miss it" Groups (15 minutes)Page 131 The second step (next page of the students' book) is to direct members of the group to one's home, using "Go straight ahead", "Turn left" and "Turn right", as before, but with the addition of "Take the first left/right", "It's on your left/right" and "You can't miss it". Students choose one of the homes on the maze, then Student A directs the others to his/her home from "Main Road". Student B directs the others to his/her home from Student A's home, etc. 4) "It's next to the bank" Groups (20 minutes)Pages 132 & 133 Students now perform another pair-work activity, directing each other around a City Centre. As they fill in the names of the buildings, there should be ample opportunity to practice prepositions of location. 5) "Where is it?" Pairs (20 minutes)Pages 134 & 135 A crossword-format encourages students to explain and internalize not only prepositions of location, but also the names of different types of shops and services that one might find in a town or city. Explanations should be in English if possible, but teachers do not need to be too strict on this. Positive encouragement and promotion of self-confidence will be more effective. 6) "How do I get to ... ?" Pairs (15 minutes)Pages 136 & 137 Students now ask each other how to get to and from places on the map of Seoul City Centre. As a follow-up, students can think of making an informative map of their own town, including all the "best" sites (hotels. information agencies, travel agents, restaurants) for visitors. They can then make role plays in which they show foreigners around. 7) "It's the "How?" game" Groups (15 minutes)Pages 138 & 139 This activity appears in Chapter 4 as "It's the "Wh ... ?" game". Students will therefore be familiar with it game. The questions are a bit more difficult now however, dealing with "How much ... ?", "How many ... ?", "How often ... ?", "How long ... ?", "How old ... ?", etc. 8) Interview "Have you ever ... ?" Pairs (25 minutes)Pages 140 & 141 This activity was performed inChapter 6, and it appears here once more, with different questions. Students therefore know what to do, and can proceed at once. The vocabulary is more difficult this time, so Part 1 is another "matching" exercise, meant to clear up problems about what terms "actually mean". As before, students should be encouraged to follow-up questions, and to answer fully. 8) Interview "Have you ever ... ?" Answer key 9) "Getting to my house" homeworkPage 142 This activity (as with other suggested homework) gives students an opportunity to consolidate the content of the chapter by writing a short composition based on that content. In this case the students are asked to draw a map of their home and its immediate vicinity, and to give directions to their house from a nearby landmark. In order to assess such activities, teachers might want to photocopy the relevant pages of the students' books. 10) Free Talking: "Seasons" Groups (15 minutes)Page 143 Free Talking this time has a general theme of "Seasons/Weather", reviewing "Wh"-questions and likes/dislikes in relation to these topics. Students and teachers might also like to look at the two Free Talking activities in the"Extra Activities" section. 11) Culture page 9 Pairs (15 minutes) Next Chapter of the Teacher's Notes Links to the Students's Book Contents | 1 | Skills | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | Extra Tell Me More - Task-based Conversation Activities By Andrew Finch and Hyun Tae-duck A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Holidays, Travel Did you enjoy your last vacation? (How was your vacation?) How do you feel after a long vacation? How many days was your vacation? How much money did you spend on your last vacation? Did you encounter any problems during your vacation? How did you resolve them? Did you have a part-time job during the holidays? Did you have any bad experiences? Did you meet any interesting people? Cn you tell me about them. Did you notice any cross-cultural differences during your vacation? Did you study during the vacation? If so, what did you study? How was your trip?Why did you visit the place(s) you went to?How did you get there?Why did you choose the means of transportation that you chose?How much luggage did you take?Would you take the same or different equipment next time? In what ways did you obtain real satisfaction when you were on vacation? Was the place you went to very different from where you live? What were the women like? What were the men like? Were people friendly? Did you stay in a hotel? What was the daily rate? What historical sites did you visit and what did you learn? What interesting people did you meet? Tell me about them. What souvenirs did you buy? What was the best food you ate during your vacation? What was the most enjoyable thing that you did during your vacation? What was the most interesting thing that you did during the vacation? What was the most interesting thing you did during the holiday? Where did you go for your last vacation?Did people speak English there?Did you have any problems?Did you use a lot of English?How did you get there?How long did it take to get there?How long were you there?How much money did you spend?What did you do there?What did you see in each place?What kind of food did you eat?What souvenirs did you buy?What was the activity you enjoyed the most, and why?What was the weather/food/scenery like?What were the people/restaurants/scenic spots like?Where did you stay?Where did you visit?Where would you like to go next?Who did you travel with?Would you recommend your friends visit there, why or why not? Where did you go? How long did you stay? How did you get there? Where is your favorite place to go on vacation? Where in the world would you most like to go for your next vacation? Of all the places you visited, which would you recommend to your friends? How do you get to sleep when you are traveling on a plane? How far was it to the beaches, to the nearest town, village etc.? How long did it take you to get there? What sort of condition was the hotel in? Did the room overlook the sea? Did you have a nice view from your room? Have you ever run out of money when you are on holidays? Who is the most remarkable person you have ever met on holiday? How would you feel if there weren't any holidays? Have you ever been mugged while on vacation? What is the most exotic or strangest thing you ate on holiday? Have you ever thought of giving up your holiday due to unavoidable reasons? Not a Question, But Usable for Conversation Please summarize your vacation in one elaborative sentence. If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. of these questions come from textbooks Copyright © 1982-2001 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 it? 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 The Internet TESL Journal David Dockhornddtraveller [at] yahoo.comSarakhampittyakhom High School (Mahasalakham, Thailand) This is a conversation activity that focuses on making invitations and requests in the context of dining at a restaurant. My Thai students are normally very shy to speak but they love to do this activity. The students play the roles of customers, waiters/waitresses, and managers in a restaurant. This gets the students speaking spontaneously and all at the same time. It's something they really like and you can do it again and again and add to it and really refine their language until they are quite fluent in making requests and invitations. It also gives them an understanding of the vocabulary surrounding restaurants and the cultural context of dining in an English speaking country. Step One If your students are unfamiliar with requests language then teach the language of making requests.Would you like...?Do you want...?Yes, I would.Yes, I do.Then after drilling and going through some examples like "Would you like to go to the movies?" and "Would you like some french fries?", etc.Step Two Run your students through the process of dining in a restaurant in an English speaking country. I simplify it a bit for my 12-13 year olds and tell them to do the following. order drinks.order an appetizerorder food (the main course)order desertask for the checkExplain the language associated with these steps for the waiter and customer. For example, Waiter: "Welcome to Dave's Restaurant. Tonight the special is monkey brains. Can I start you off with something to drink?"Customer: "Why yes, I'd like some milk."Teach the students about problems at restaurants as well such as; bad or slow service, rude waiters, cold food, a fly in the food, a rat in the restaurant, etc.Also, explain some language regarding forgetting to bring your money or not having enough money to pay the bill. This is the most fun part for the students, complaining about the restaurant and not having enough money so this is an important part to make sure they understandxs.Step Three Write down the name of the restaurant on the whiteboard, the daily specials, and some menu items and prices.Choose an assistant manager and ask them to pick some waiters.Give your waiters a quick reminder on their initial greeting to give guests and send them out to their tables.Have your assistant manager help with any slow or bad service complaints and wander around to make sure the students are participating and help pacify customers who are upset with the cold food and bad service. My students love this activity because they love to complain about the bad service, etc. and see the manager reprimand the waiter for being rude or slow. Also, most of the tables end up not having money to pay for the bill and have to wash dishes or the police have to be called.This activity may degenerate if some of the tables have gotten their checks and these students start to play or kick-box with their waiters. At this point you can promote your best waiter to be the assistant manager and pick some new waiters. Usually I let the assistant manager pick but I also pick students who aren't participating or are causing a ruckus.Repeat Then run through it again. The students also enjoy outrageous menu items like monkey brains, buffalo steak, human pizza, etc. and extremely high prices. The Internet TESL Journal, Vol. IX, No. 10, October 2003 A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom. Related: Restaurants, Fruits and Vegetables, Diets, Food & Eating Do you know any vegetarians? Do you think restaurants should offer one or two vegetarian dishes on their menu? What are the different kinds of vegetarians? Could you try vegetarianism for a month? Could you try vegetarianism for a week? Could you try vegetarianism for a full day? If someone eats cheese and drinks milk, are they vegetarian? If someone wears leather shoes or a fur coat, can they call themselves "vegetarian"? What is the difference between a vegan and a vegetarian? What is the most logical reason for becoming a vegetarian? What would you prepare for a vegetarian coming for dinner at your home? (appetizer, main dish, dessert and beverage) What meal would you miss the most if you became vegetarian? What would be a great meal you would prepare for yourself as a vegetarian? Would you go to a vegetarian restaurant for dinner? What would be more difficult to eat, a strange new vegetable, or an exotic piece of meat? What are the proven benefits of eating meat? Have you ever considered becoming a vegetarian? Would you marry a vegetarian if it meant you could not cook meat at home? Do you know any famous vegetarians? (Albert Einstein, Avril Lavigne, Buddha, Clint Eastwood) What is a better reason for becoming a vegetarian; health reasons or animal rights? If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it. Thanks to Sarah Mulvey who suggested this topic and contributed the first 20 questions in November 2011. Copyright © 1997-2010 by The Internet TESL Journal

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