

1. Three Things about Me



Useful words and expressions

*First, look at each item. Then write an **O** in the box if you know the meaning or an **X** if you don't. Next, highlight all the **X** items in the example conversations. Try to understand the highlighted items by listening to the conversations. After listening, if you still don't understand, use your dictionary and note the definitions.*

a little nervous

a city called...

a large family

an only child

something else

your favorite thing

How about you?

What's another...

I really love...

a fun time

very cool

I live alone

far from here

rarely

hometown

lonely

in a tavern

one last thing

going overseas

host family

1. Three Things about Me – Example Conversation 1

I. Greeting

1. Jordan Hello, my name is Jordan.
2. Sarah Hi. It's nice to meet you. My name's Sarah. How're you today?

II. Small Talk

3. Jordan I'm fine, a little nervous. It is my first day of classes today.
4. Sarah Oh, me too. I agree with you. I'm a little nervous as well.

III. Introducing the Topic

5. Jordan Well, Sarah. Tell me a little about yourself.
6. Sarah Um, I am from Canada, from Toronto actually. Have you heard of Toronto? follow-up question
7. Jordan Yes, I have. I have never been there, though.
8. Sarah Where are you from, Jordan?
9. Jordan I'm from New Zealand, from a city called Wellington. It is not as big as Toronto, but I like it.
10. Sarah I see. Does your family live there? follow-up question
11. Jordan Yes, I come from a large family. I have three brothers and two sisters.
12. Sarah Wow! That is a lot of people in one house!
13. Jordan Yeah! How about you? How many people are there in your family? 5 Ws and an H question
14. Sarah Well, I'm an only child.
15. Jordan Uh, that's great.

IV. Reintroducing the Topic

16. Sarah So, Jordan. Tell me something else about yourself.
17. Jordan I really like to cook.
18. Sarah Really? Wow. What is your favorite thing to cook? follow-up question
19. Jordan My favorite dish is *paella*.
20. Sarah What is that? What's...*paella*? 5 Ws and an H question
21. Jordan It is seafood and chicken cooked with rice. It's a Spanish dish that I learned to make when I traveled there.
22. Sarah Mm. Sounds good.

23. Jordan How about you, Sarah? What's another thing you can tell me about yourself? 5 Ws and an H question
24. Sarah Oh, I really love music. I love to play it and listen to it, too.
25. Jordan Okay. What kind of instrument do you play? follow-up question
26. Sarah I play the piano, but I'm attempting to learn the guitar.
27. Jordan Oh, that's nice. Good luck.

V. Finishing

28. Jordan Oh hey, Sarah. Look at what time it is. We both better find our first period classes. We wouldn't want to be late on our first day!
29. Sarah Yeah, I agree. It was nice meeting you.
30. Jordan You too, Sarah. Maybe I will see you around campus.
31. Sarah Yeah, who knows! Take care.
32. Jordan You, too. Bye.

Did you get it?

Circle the correct answer.

Q. Has Jordan been to Toronto?

- No, but he's heard of it.
- Yes, he has.

Q. Does Jordan like to cook?

- Yes, his favorite dish is paella.
- No, he doesn't.

Q. What instrument is Sarah trying to learn?

- The piano.
- The guitar.

1. Three Things about Me – Example Conversation 2

I. Greeting

1. Yuki Hi, Hitomi.
2. Hitomi Hi, Yuki.
3. Yuki Ah, how're you today?
4. Hitomi Um, it's quite hot.
5. Yuki Yeah, but yesterday was so cold, cold!
6. Hitomi Yeah. Um...

II. Small Talk

7. Yuki How was your last class, Hitomi? 5 Ws and an H question
8. Hitomi Ah, yesterday I talked with, uh, three tutors 'cause, and, uh, in summer vacation, I had an opportunity to speak English with native **speaker speakers**. So, it's, it was very fun. How about you?
9. Yuki Ah, me. Eh, I know one person that, because we were friends before we had **the Power-Up! Tutorial¹**, *Power-Up! Tutorial*. So it was **a fun time** for me and for us. Uh, **it's it was** nice. Maybe.

III. Introducing the Topic

10. Hitomi Okay, and...please tell me about, uh, yourself.
11. Yuki Ah, I love music very much and I listen to various kinds of music. And, for example rock, pop, jazz and R&B.
12. Hitomi Mm-hm.
13. Yuki But I especially like *Bump of Chicken*. And, ah, many people say it's a very strange name, but, but I love them because they are very cool.
14. Hitomi Oh. Which song **is do most** you like **most**? follow-up question
15. Yuki Ah, songs? I love "K." "K!"
16. Hitomi I like it, and I like "Dandelion."
17. Yuki Ah. Me, too! When I heard, uh... Ah! When I listened to "K" **the** first time, I cried.
18. Hitomi Oh, okay. You **were** moved? follow-up question
19. Yuki Yeah, very moved.
20. Hitomi Yeah. Ah, I like music too, and also I like *Bump of Chicken*, but recently I like *Green Day* because...
21. Yuki *Green Day*, yeah. You have **a the** new album.

¹ The *Power-Up! Tutorial* (PUT) is an English oral communication tutorial.

22. Hitomi Yeah, and “American Idiot” is a nice song, I think.
23. Yuki “American Idiot.” Mm, *Green Day*. Yeah.
24. Hitomi Please tell me your s... another thing **about you**.
25. Yuki Another **things thing**, ah, I live alone now, and I live in Hirabari now. Do you know **where** Hirabari is? *follow-up question*
26. Hitomi Yeah.
27. Yuki Ah, really? Uh, because... I’m from Shimane...
28. Hitomi Uh-huh.
29. Yuki ...and it’s very far from here, and I rarely go back to my hometown, so I sometimes **becomes get** very nervous and lonely. Mm. But now it’s okay because I have a lot of friends, so...

IV. Reintroducing the Topic

30. Yuki ...and could you tell me about yourself?
31. Hitomi I like eating food. Also, I like cooking. For example, ~~I’m~~ **I’ve been** working in a tavern in my hometown, Toyota City, for two years.
32. Yuki For two years?
33. Hitomi Yeah, and also, I’m working in **a** noodle shop.
34. Yuki **A** noodle shop?
35. Hitomi Yeah.
36. Yuki It tastes good? It tastes good? *follow-up question*
37. Hitomi Yeah.
38. Yuki Ah, really? Which taste, which flavor do you like most? *follow-up question*
39. Hitomi Oh, ~~hows~~ **how should** I say **it?** *Tonkotsu*.
40. Yuki *Tonkotsu*. Ah, *tonkotsu*. And tell me one last **things thing** about yourself.
41. Hitomi Yeah, I like general goods. It means *zakka*...
42. Yuki *Zakka*.
43. Hitomi ...in Japanese. And I’d like to open ~~own~~ my **own** shop **in the** near future because I like going overseas ~~to going on trip trips~~ and, so if I had ~~a-own~~ my **own** shop I ~~can~~ **could** go ~~to~~ overseas...
44. Yuki To buy...
45. Hitomi ...to buy...
46. Yuki ...general goods. Ah, really? That’s nice.
47. Hitomi Uh, I went to Australia for a month.

48. Yuki Uh, last year? *follow-up question*
49. Hitomi Yeah, **to** study English. And I have a host family in Aussie, in Australia.
50. Yuki Mm, mm, mm.
51. Hitomi I love them, so I want to meet them.
52. Yuki Again?
53. Hitomi Yeah.
54. Yuki Ah, really?
55. Hitomi Someday I **want to** go, go back to Australia.
56. Yuki Ah, that's nice. And you can invite, um, ~~your~~ **all everyone to** your shop.
57. Hitomi Yeah, I hope so.

V. Finishing

58. Hitomi Mm. Nice talking with you.
59. Yuki ~~Me, too.~~ **You, too.** Thank you.
60. Hitomi Thank you.

Did you get it?

Circle the correct answer.

Q. Yuki likes Bump of Chicken. What's her favorite song?

- She likes "K."
- She likes "Dandelion."

Q. What is Hitomi interested in?

- She likes to work.
- She likes cooking and eating.

Q. When would Hitomi like to open her shop?

- After getting back from Australia.
- Not so long from now.

Three Things about Me – Conversation Strategies

1a Follow-up Questions

Asking **follow-up questions** is a very important conversation strategy for practicing English with your partners. It requires *listening carefully* to your partners and then *asking a question* about what they said.

Jordan I'm from New Zealand, from a city called Wellington. It is not as big as Toronto, but I like it.
Sarah I see. Does your family live there? follow-up question

You can also *follow up your own comment* with a question for your partner.

Jordan Well, Sarah. Tell me a little about yourself.
Sarah Um, I am from Canada, from Toronto actually. Have you heard of Toronto? follow-up question

1b Asking 5 Ws and an H Questions

Use **5 W's and an H** words to help you think of follow-up questions.

WHERE

WHEN

WHAT

WHO

HOW

WHY

Example Follow-up Questions

What's your name? **What** does it mean?



Where were you born?
When did you move?



Why're you studying English?
How's it going?



Do you like sports? **What's** your favorite sport?



Where do you live? **Who** do you live with?



What do you like to cook?
How often do you cook?



Where've you been to? **How** long?



What're you good at?
Why?



A typical 5-step practice conversation

I. Greeting *There are many ways to greet your classmates. “Hello,” for example, is more formal, and “Hi” and “Hey” are more casual.*

Yuki Hi, Hitomi. (also: Hello • Hey • What’s up)
Hitomi Hi, Yuki.
Yuki Ah, how’re you today? (How’s it going)
Hitomi Um, it’s quite hot.

II. Small Talk *Before talking about a topic use small talk to create a relaxed mood. You can talk about whatever you like.*

Yuki How was your last class, Hitomi?
Hitomi Ah, yesterday I talked with tutors, so it was fun. How about you?
Yuki Ah, me. Uh, I know one person because we were friends before, so it was a fun time for me. ~~It’s~~ **It was** nice.

III. Introducing the Topic *Try to introduce the topic naturally; use “So...”*

Hitomi So, please tell me a little about yourself.
Yuki Ah, I love music very much, and I listen to various kinds.

Another way to introduce the topic is by bringing up the topic in small talk.

Yuki Yeah, the other day I went to a *Bump of Chicken* concert.
Hitomi Really? Were they here in Nagoya?
Yuki Yeah, and I was in the second row! I love their music.

IV. Reintroducing the Topic *Involve your partner by reintroduce the topic using, “How about you?” or “What about you?”*

Yuki And how about you? Could you tell me about yourself?
Hitomi I like eating. Also, I like cooking. I was working in a tavern.

V. Finishing *Finish by saying something like, “Well, nice talking with you.” You can say what you have to do (“I’m meeting a friend for lunch.”), or where you have to go (“Sorry. I have to go to class.”).*

Yuki Well, I gotta go. Nice talking with you.
Hitomi **Me, too.** You, too. Bye.

****See pages 138-139 for more useful expressions for each of the 5 Steps.**

1. Three Things about Me – Helpful Hints

Making a *Three Things about Me* card will help us to get to know each other a little better. We'll use them to help us introduce ourselves and ask and answer questions about one another.

To make this card:

- 1) Think of **3** things that are special about you.
- 2) Use pictures and/or words to explain these 3 things. Try to think of English words you may need to talk about these things.

Check
this out.

Conversations in English

There's a lot to remember in the first class but try to relax and have fun. Here's a checklist of the main steps:

- Greet your partner*
- Make small talk*
- Introduce the topic*
- Listen carefully and ask questions*
- Reintroduce the topic*
- Listen carefully and ask more questions*
- Finish your conversation*



1. Three Things about Me – Example Cards

THREE THINGS ABOUT ME Jordan Class A

family

- from Wellington, New Zealand
- 3 brothers, 2 sisters



travel

- Spain, Australia, Egypt
- Study abroad, sightseeing

Q: Where did you grow up?

Q: What are you good at?



interests

- like to cook
- favorite dish – paella
- traveled to Spain



Three Things About Me Hitomi A class

music

- Bump of Chicken
- Green Day



food

- work at tavern - noodle shop
- favorite “tonkatsu”

Q: Do you live with your parents?

Q: Do you play any sports?

dream

- “zakka”
- visit host family in Australia again



1. Three Things about Me – Questions

Asking questions is a *very* important part of a successful conversation. This **Questions** section lists some questions to help you. Look at these questions before class and try to write some of your own in the **Your questions** space (below) or on your card.



1. How're you this morning? (this afternoon, today)
2. Where're you from?
3. Do you know where _____ *x* _____ is?
4. Could you tell me about yourself?
5. What are you interested in?
6. What are you into?
7. How about you?
8. What's your favorite _____ *x* _____?
9. Could you tell me something else about yourself?
10. What's another thing you can tell me about yourself?
11. Why are you interested in studying English?
12. Have you ever been abroad? (overseas)
13. Do you have any plans for the future?

Your questions