

Creating a new personality

Type of activity: Warmer – sts create a new personality for a student.

Aims: To practise question forms and speaking fluency

Level: A2+ (Elementary+)

Materials: None

Procedure:

1. Nominate one student to sit in front of the class. Tell this student s/he doesn't have to say anything, just listen.
2. The rest of the class collaborates to build up the new personality.
3. Start with name, the class decides on a new name for the student. There has to be a consensus. T can prompt. St listens and remembers. The name is followed by:
 - age
 - nationality
 - city or town or country where they live
 - job or student
 - married or single
 - 3 things they like
 - 3 things they don't like
 - secret ambition

With lower levels it can be just one thing they like, one thing they dislike and one thing they'd like to do. T repeats each new piece of information and recaps occasionally to help the student remember all the information

4. Student then introduces his/her new self to the class, repeating all the information. The class can prompt if s/he forgets anything. The class then asks further questions, eg if married does s/he have children, if single does s/he have girl/boyfriend, what are they studying, what do they like about their job, etc.
5. Repeat in pairs St 1 gives new personality, St 2 listens, swap roles.

Contributed by Sandra Piai, Italy
(I learnt this activity at a workshop at Regent Summer Schools)
May 2020