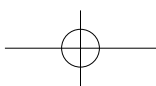
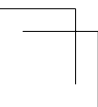
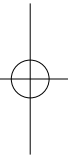
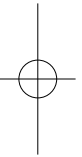
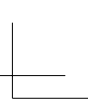
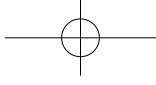
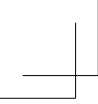


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Unit 1



GETTING ACQUAINTED

OBJECTIVES

Theme:
meeting people

Language functions:
introductions;
greetings;
forms of address

» WARM-UP

- 1) Sit in a circle. Write three things about yourself or write your impression of the city, the college, or the English class. Do not put your name on the paper. For example:

- I come from southern China, and I find Beijing's summer very dry.
- The college is far smaller than I imagined.
- I don't speak very good English, so I'm not sure if I can do well in this class.

- 2) Crumple your paper into a ball.
- 3) When the teacher says "go," toss your "snowball" to another student as in a snowball fight. Do not throw your "snowball" at

anyone's face. Then pick up one "snowball."

- 4) Open the "snowball" and find out who it belongs to by asking questions. Do not ask "Who wrote this?" or "Excuse me, did you write this?"
- 5) Identify the student and chat about the information on the sheet.

» ACTIVITY 1

1. Conversation

Monitor: Good afternoon, everybody. This is our first meeting, and I'm happy to act as monitor temporarily, until we have an election. There are 24 of us, and we come from different parts of the country, so I suggest we each say a few words about ourselves.

Yang Hong: Good idea. Let me introduce myself first. My name is Yang Hong. I come from Shanxi and my parents are both teachers. I chose to study English because I'm particularly interested in foreign cultures. I like singing, although I'm not a great singer. I also like sports.

Cao Xiaoyu: My name is Cao Xiaoyu. I come from Nanjing. Actually it is very beautiful. I want to study English because I want to see the outside world with my own eyes. I don't have as many interests as Mr. Yang, but I'm interested in writing. Some of my poems and articles have been published.



Zhang Juan: I'm Zhang Juan, and I come from a mountain village in Zhejiang. It's a very out-of-the-way place, and I've never traveled far from home before, so I am very excited. I like English because I happened to have a good English teacher in my high school, but eventually I decided to specialize in international finance.

Zhou Ming: My name is Zhou Ming. Just call me Xiao Zhou. Everybody does. My father is a government official and my mother's an engineer. It was my father's idea that I should study English. He believes English is important. I have many interests, too. I like reading, I like talking—my friends say I talk too much—and I like thinking. Many social issues fascinate me.

Liu Ying: I don't really have much to say about myself. I'm very shy. But now that I'm here, I hope I can become part of our big family. I hope you will like me. By the way, my name is Liu Ying and I come from Hubei.

2. Group work

Can you find anything similar between you and any of the five students in the conversation above? What about you and your classmates? Find out and get to know each other by asking the following questions!

- Where do you come from? _____
- Which high school did you go to? _____
- What are your hobbies? _____
- Why did you decide to come to this university? Are you happy with this decision? _____
- Are you anxious about college life? _____



Brainstorm more questions like those listed above. Then, work in groups and take turns asking each other questions you come up with. Finally, introduce one member of your group to the class.

» **ACTIVITY 2**

1. Conversation

Li Zihao: Excuse me. Haven't we met before?

Tian Wenyan: I don't think so, but wait! You do look familiar.

Li Zihao: You went to the No. 3 High School in Shanghai, didn't you?

Tian Wenyan: Yes, that's right. I graduated two years ago.

Li Zihao: Well, we are from the same school then! I just graduated this June and I arrived here only yesterday. Anyway, my name is Li Zihao.

Tian Wenyan: Oh, now I remember. We once worked together in the student union. It's so nice to see you again. I'm Tian Wenyan. By the way, this is my roommate, Zhang Jing. She's from the French Department.

Li Zihao: Glad to meet you.

Zhang Jing: Glad to meet you, too.

Tian Wenyan: How's everything?

Li Zihao: Pretty good—except that I'm still not very familiar with the campus and all the facilities.

Tian Wenyan: Don't worry about that. We'll show you around this afternoon.

Li Zihao: Thank you very much.

Tian Wenyan: You're welcome.



2. Pair work

Imagine that you are Li Zihao. Describe your experience to your partner. You may begin like this: “You know, I ran into someone from my high school! It was really great seeing a familiar face on campus...”

3. Role-play

- 1) In a crowded student cafeteria, **A** finally spots a vacant seat next to **B**, a sophomore. **A** approaches **B** and asks whether he or she can sit there.
- 2) **A** is a freshman and **B** is the Dean’s secretary in charge of student affairs. **A** is in **B**’s office, filling out his or her registration card.
- 3) **A** and **B** go to a party, where **A** meets an old acquaintance **C** from primary school days. **A** reintroduces himself or herself to **C** and then introduces **B**.
- 4) You are having a party in your dormitory. Greet your guests as they arrive.
- 5) You are at a dinner party during an international conference. Introduce yourself and get to know as many people as possible.

» ACTIVITY 3

1. Conversation

(A reporter is just concluding an interview with a famous actress.)

Reporter: Thank you very much for agreeing to this interview.

Actress: My pleasure.

Reporter: OK, I’d like to check your full, official name. It’s Patricia Schultz, right?

Actress: Correct.

Reporter: Uh-huh, and do you prefer Miss, Mrs., or Ms.?

Actress: Excuse me?

Reporter: That is, are you married? Are you Miss Schultz, Mrs. Schultz, or Ms. Schultz?

Actress: I don’t see why that’s anybody’s business. We’re talking about acting. Why does anybody care if I’m married?

Reporter: Gosh, I apologize, but we have to ask. It’s the policy of our newspaper—we’re required to collect certain background information...

2. Pair work

First work on your own. Read the following two situations and answer the questions at the end of each one. Then exchange answers with your partner.

Situation I

An American professor, Jane Smith, is giving a lecture to a university psychology class. A Chinese student wants to ask the professor a question but stops in confusion: How should he address her? Do you know what the correct form of address is? Would there be any difference if the professor were Chinese or Japanese?

Situation II

Laura is a college student looking for a summer internship position. She saw an advertisement for an assistant at a health science research center and sent the director an email. The name of the director as appeared on the center's website is M. S. Hess, MD. Laura addressed her email to Mr. M. S. Hess. Later, she received a call for an interview, but the caller reminded her that "In business emails, it is important to properly address the person you are writing to." Do you know what went wrong?

3. Discussion

What courtesy titles do people in China usually use nowadays? When do we use them? What are the English equivalents for “同志,” “师傅,” and “大爷”? In addition to courtesy titles, we often address people by their professions, such as “刘老师,” “李经理,” and “赵主任.” Do you think that it is appropriate to do the same in English? If not, what is the common practice in English-speaking countries?

4. Story-telling

Have you had any embarrassing experience that involved not addressing someone properly? Share your story!

>> ACTIVITY 4**1. Mrs., Miss, or Ms.?**

Everybody knows about Mr., Mrs., and Miss. These are courtesy titles used before surnames. We usually address an adult with one of these titles unless he or she asks us to call him or her by his or her first name. Mr. is for men. Mrs. is for married women and Miss for single women. But what is Ms. (pronounced /mɪz/)?

Today, many women, especially those in the business world, prefer to be addressed as Ms. rather than Mrs. or Miss. The word *Mr.* does not tell people whether or not a man is married. Many women think this is an advantage for men. They want to be equal to men in this way. These women feel that it is not important for people to know whether they are married or not. Therefore, they like the title of Ms., which seems to have neatly and efficiently solved a difficult problem. There are problems with Ms., however. Not all women like it. Some like the conventional way of doing things. Others find it difficult to pronounce. To play it safe, it's best to ask each woman if she has a title she prefers using.

2. Discussion

Forms of address not only vary in different cultures but also reflect, to some extent, cultural evolution. For instance, in China, “先生” and “女士” were gradually replaced by “同志” after 1949, but have been revived in recent decades. Another example is “老师,” which has expanded far beyond its original meaning of “teacher” in recent years. It is now commonly used in the media and elsewhere to respectfully address someone who is knowledgeable or has the expertise. Now, discuss the following questions in pairs or groups.

- 1) “叔叔,” “奶奶,” or even “小姐姐” are common forms of address in China. What are their English equivalents? What cultural values do you see in the Chinese and English forms of address?
- 2) Qingdao locals might address a young man or woman as “青年.” Are there any interesting forms of address in your hometown? On what occasion and between whom are they used?
- 3) How do you address a stranger and a customer service person in your local dialect?
- 4) Do you know of any new forms of address in China? On what occasion and between whom are they used? For instance, “亲” can be used to address a customer in online shopping.

» SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITY

1. Introducing a guest speaker

If you host an event, you may be required to introduce speakers. A good introduction is essential to getting a speaker off to a good start. Try the following three tips for making a powerful introduction of a speaker.

- **Name:** Make sure you find out the proper pronunciation of the speaker's name. Improper pronunciation makes your introduction unprofessional. It is embarrassing and harms the credibility of both yourself and the speaker.
- **Title:** How does the speaker want to be introduced? They might have several job titles, have membership in various committees, and have several professional qualifications. Refer to a doctor as Dr. Ann Smith. Refer to a judge as Judge Ann Smith.
- **Reasons for choosing this speaker:** Explain why this particular speaker was chosen and establish his or her credibility. You should aim to explain the fact that the speaker is one of the best people in the industry and can offer insights and valuable solutions on the topic being discussed.

Example

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. It's truly a pleasure and an honor for me to introduce our speaker, Dr. Zhong Nanshan. Dr. Zhong, hailed as the "SARS hero," is China's top respiratory expert. He is in the spotlight again for his crucial role in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Although he is in his eighties, he still works around the clock and keeps sharing China's pandemic control experience with the world. Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming Dr. Zhong Nanshan!



2. Mini-speech

Give a short introduction of a guest speaker. You may introduce either one of the following speakers or your own professor.

- 1) Florence Chia-ying Yeh, also known as Ye Jiaying (叶嘉莹), is a Chinese-born Canadian poet and sinologist. She was awarded the title of Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1990. She taught for 20 years at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and has been Professor Emerita since her retirement in 1989. Since the late 1970s, she has taught Chinese classical poetry at dozens of universities including Nanjing University and Fudan University. She is the founding director of the Institute of Chinese Classical Culture at Nankai University.
- 2) Xie Jun (谢军) is the deputy chief designer of the BeiDou Navigation Satellite System and the chief designer of the BeiDou's third-generation satellite. He has been engaged in the aerospace industry since he graduated from the National University of Defense Technology in 1982. His connection with BeiDou began in 2004, when he was appointed the second-generation satellite's chief designer.

Language Bank

Greetings

Good morning, John. How's everything (going)?

How're things?

What's up/new?

Hello, Mr. White. It's nice to see you again.

Hi, John! What a pleasant surprise! How are you? It's been a long time.

Responses to greetings

Very well. Thanks. And you?

Fine./All right./Not bad./Can't complain./Not so good. (How about you?)

Introductions and possible responses

Mr. Brown, may I present Dr. Smith? (very formal)

Dr. Smith, it's an honor to meet you.

Alice, I would like you to meet Mrs. White. She's a colleague of mine. (formal)

I'm very pleased to meet you, Mrs. White.

Bob, do you know Dr. Smith?/Bob, have you met Dr. Smith? (formal)

We haven't met. How do you do, Dr. Smith?

This is Tony. He works in the Public Relations Department. (general)

Hi, Tony. I'm Jack Brown, from Sales.

John, meet Julia. She's a good friend of mine. Julia, this is John. (informal)

Julia, I'm so glad we can finally meet. I have heard a lot about you.

Self-introductions

Excuse me. May I introduce myself? I'm Alice Jones from the English Department. (formal)

Let me introduce myself. I'm Alice Jones. (formal or general)

Hi, I'm Robert, but everyone calls me Bobby. (informal)

Introducing a person to a group of people

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor to introduce to you our speaker Professor White. (formal)

Everyone, this is George. George is a friend of mine from work. George, these are my buddies. Tim, Jack, and Bill. (informal)

(George) Hi, there. (informal)

(Tim) Pleased to meet you. (informal)