Communicative Function

Unit 1 Studying English

Greetings and Introductions

People greet each other when they meet. And in meeting new people it is common to introduce oneself and be introduced by others. This exercise focuses on different ways to greet people and to make introductions.

Useful Expressions for Greeting and Introductions

Greetings	Making Introductions
Hello.	May I introduce (Mr. Wang) to you?
How are you doing?	I'd like to introduce (Mr. Wang) to you.
How's everything?	Come and meet (Mr. Wang), our software
What's new?	engineer.
How's it going?	This is (Mr. Wang), my cousin.
Good morning, Jack. How are you?	Hello, I'm (Mr. Wang) from (Beijing).
Hello, Paul. I've heard so much about you.	My name is (Mr. Wang).
You look great today. How are things?	I'd like you to meet the president of our
Hi, how have you been?	company, (Mr. Wang Ling).
Hey, great to see you.	Good afternoon, I'm (Wang Ling). Very pleased
Fancy meeting you here.	to meet you.
Hi, I've been looking forward to meeting you.	
How nice to see you.	
It's good to see you.	

Unit 2 Fun with Language

Opening and Closing a Conversation

In everyday life, we often have to open and close a conversation. This exercise focuses on how people perform these communicative functions.

Useful Expressions for Opening and Closing a Conversation

Opening a conversation	Closing a conversation
Beautiful day, isn't it?	It was a nice talking to you/ to see you again.
Terrible weather, don't you think so?	It was great seeing you.
Excuse me, is anybody sitting here/ is this seat	See you again sometime/See you tomorrow.
taken?	Have a good day/ nice weekend/ nice trip.
I wonder if you can do me a favor.	Thanks very much for inviting us to your
You look familiar to me, aren't you?	wonderful party.
Excuse me, haven't we met somewhere before?	I hope to see you again soon. Let's have lunch
Excuse me, Have you got any stamps?	together sometime.
Excuse me, could you tell me the time?	I'm afraid I have to get back to my office. I'm
Excuse me, is this the way to the library?	expecting a phone call.
Sorry, I couldn't help overhearing—did you	It's been great seeing you again. Gee, look at
mention something about?	the time. I've got to run, Talk to you later.
Er, do you have a minute> I'm not quite sure	Well, thanks for talking to us today.
what this word means.	I've got to be going. I'll be in touch.
	Well, the time has come for us to say goodbye.

Keep in touch. Remember to give me a ring/
send me an e-mail sometime.

Unit 3 School Life

Expressing Likes and Dislikes

There are various ways to express likes and dislikes. They can be expressed by using verbs, phrasal verbs, adjectives as well as adjectival phrases.

Dislikes

Greetings	Making Introductions
I hate (being laughed at by others).	I'm bored to death with (this kind of show).
I don't care for (Kentucky Fried Chicken).	(Long Speeches) bore me.
I can't stand/bear/put up with (the heat).	I especially dislike (onions).
I think little of (fast food).	(That sort of music) is rubbish.
That's the last thing I need.	(Ballroom dancing) is not my cup of tea.
I'm tired of (rainy days).	
I'm fed up with (your rudeness).	

Unit 4 Going to a Party

Controlling a Conversation

In daily communication we often use different techniques to control a conversation. We need to know how to show attention or surprise, how to agree or disagree, how to break in, how to change the subject, and how to bring other people into a conversation. In this part you'll learn some of the ways we use to control a conversation.

Useful Expressions to Controlling a Conversation and Changing a Topic

	Controlling a Conversation	Changing a Topic
I see.	No kidding!	By the way,
Yeah.	Imagine that!	Come to think of it,
Yes.	Like what?	Speaking of
Hmm.	Don't you think so?	And another thing,
Well,	Well, let me see	Something else I'd like to know is
Really?	Let me think for a minute.	This may sound like a dumb question, but I'd
		like to know
		To get back to our talk,

Unit 6 Shopping

Getting Information

In everyday life we have to deal with many kinds of situations that require us to obtain information from others. Different ways can be used to ask for information from different people.

Useful Expressions for Getting Information

Could you tell me...?

I wonder if you could tell me...

I'd like to know something about...

I was wondering if you could help me. I'd like to know...

Excuse me, do you happen to know...?

I hope you don't mind my asking, but I'd like to know...

Would you mind telling me more about...?

What I want to know is...

I don't quite understand why...

Unit 9 Going on Vacation

Making Reservations

Telephones are used extensively nowadays. People use the telephone to make reservations for tickets, hotel rooms, tables and so on.

Unit 10 Places of Interest

Describing Places

In daily life we often need to describe places to others, for example, describe a city or a school they haven't been to or a tourist attraction they haven't visited. One of the most common ways to describe places is by using adjectives. This exercise deals with how to describe places with adjectives.

Useful Expressions for Describing Places

Asking for a Description	Describing Places
How was (your vacation in Europe)?	Tokyo is (big) and (modern).
What was (Berlin) like?	Beijing is (an old city) and full of (tourist
How do you like (Sydney)?	attractions).
What does (the Oriental Pearl TV Tower) look	Qingdao is (a famous scenic spot).
like?	Our town has (the most beautiful garden in the
What's interesting about (the Old City in	whole country).
Shanghai)?	New York is (a city of skyscrapers).
What do you think of (the Great Wall)?	Disneyland must be/ sound like (a fascinating
How old is (the Tower of London)?	place).
What's particular/so special about (the Summer	New Orleans is well-known for its (jazz music).
Palace)?	Hawaii is (a group of island in the Pacific).
What do you like most about (the Yellow	The weather in Guangzhou is (sunny and
Mountains)?	warm).
What is your impression of (the Olympic Park	San Francisco is located (in the western part of
in Beijing)?	the U.S.).

Unit 11 Animals

Making Suggestions

In daily life we are often approached by our friends or relatives for advice. In return we make suggestions to them as to what they should do. In other words, we put forward an idea for them to consider. In this exercise we are going to focus on various ways making suggestions in English.

Useful Expressions for Making Suggestions

Don't you think we should (take the dog foe a walk)?

Shall we (get some dog food from that store)?

Why don't we (buy Johnny a pet for a gift)?

Why don't you (leave you dog to your neighbor while you're on holiday)?

Why not (feed the cat now)?

How about (buying some tropical fish)?

What about (building a hutch for the rabbit)?

You'd better (clean up the rabbit hutch).

If I were you, I'd (go and buy a parrot in the market).

Have you thought about (having a dog for company)?

I was wondering if you'd ever thought of (buying Jimmy some goldfish for his birthday).

I think it might be a good idea to (buy him a pet mouse. He was born in the year of the Rat).

Unit 13 the Media

Describing Things

In daily life we often describe things to others. In our descriptions, we talk about size, shape, color and so on.

Useful Expressions for Describing Things

Asking for Descriptions	Describing Things
How big is (the living room)?	It's (dark blue).
How heavy is (this down jacket)?	It's (round).
How does (the computer) work?	It's made of (wood/plastic/leather).
What's (the shopping bag) made of?	It's (quite long and rather wide).
What's (this tool) used for?	It's (a multi-storey building).
What color are (the walls)?	It's (in the center of the town).
What size are (the shoes)?	It's (quite modern).
What does (your new apartment) look like?	It looks like (a TV set).
Can you describe (the house/flat you have just	
moved in)?	
Tell me about (the kitchen).	

Unit 14 Advertising

Agreement or Disagreement

In daily conversation, we often agree or disagree with other people's opinions. The exercise is focused on how we express agreement or disagreement.

Useful Expressions for Agreement and Disagreement

Expressing Agreement	Expressing Disagreement
I agree entirely.	I wouldn't say so.
I couldn't agree with you more.	I couldn't agree with you less.
You can say that again.	No way.
I'll say/ You said it.	It's out of the question.
That's it/You got it.	I'm not sure I can agree.
Why not?	I couldn't disagree more.
That's for sure/Sure/Absolutely/Definitely/By	I disagree.
all means/You bet.	I don't think so.
That's just what I think/I feel the same way.	Are you absolutely sure?
Me, too.	I wonder if there's a mistake.
I think/guess/suppose so.	Are you kidding?
Exactly.	