

Swimming Lesson

Conversation > Intermediate 5



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

persuade	To get someone to agree with you by giving them reasons.
[verb]	Ex: I am trying to persuade my colleague to help me.
float	To be on or near the surface of a liquid without sinking.
[verb]	Ex: She likes to read while floating in the pool.
instructor	A person who teaches a skill or sport.
[noun]	Ex: There are many good instructors in this gym.
anxious	Feeling worried or nervous.
[adjective]	Ex: He is feeling anxious about his job interview.
drown	To die from being underwater for too long and unable to breathe.
[verb]	Ex: He almost drowned in a diving accident.



flutter board	A small board used by swimmers to support the head and the upper part of the body.
[noun]	Ex: Just hold this flutter board , and kick the wall in the pool.
eventually	At some point in the future, especially after a series of events, problems, etc.
[adverb]	Ex: She knew that she would have to get up eventually.
take a dip	To go for a swim.
[phrase]	Ex: Peter wants to take a dip in the sea.
flutter kick	A swimming kick in which the legs move up and down in the water.
[noun]	Ex: Flutter kicks are the basic in swimming.
front crawl	A swimming style; the swimmer faces downwards and moves their arms
	alternately in strokes.
[noun]	Ex: I can now do the front crawl , I practiced a lot.



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Mom: John, we are here at the pool because you have your first swimming lesson today.

John: But I don't want to go in the pool. I'm afraid, mom.

Mom: There's nothing to be scared of. You have a very good and friendly instructor. I will be there, too.

John: What should I do first, mom?

Mom: Just take a dip in the pool and follow your instructor. She will teach you the basic ways to swim.

John: I'm still anxious, mom. I might sink and drown.



Mom: No, you won't. Just relax and imagine that you are a boat.

John: A boat? Wow! Are you trying to persuade me?

Mom: You can use this flutter board, too. It will help you float on the water.

John: Alright, mom. I'll give it a try.

Mom: Start with a flutter kick. You will be able to do the front crawl eventually. It'll be fun.

John: Okay, mom. I trust you.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool drowning persuaded If you work here long enough, you'll _____ meet the CEO. 1. Take this _____, it can help you with your swimming lessons. front crawl 3. One of my biggest fears is _____. flutter kicks She's _____ because today is her big wedding day. take a dip The is stressing the importance of proper form. 5. There are many flowers _____ on the water. 6. eventually 7. I _____ my parents to let me attend the rock concert. floating Do you want to _____ in the pool? You can start with _____, it will be better! flutter board 9. 10. What swimming style do you like? I like the _____. instructor anxious



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: Your friend Megan is afraid of water and cannot swim, give your friend advice so that she can go into the water. The teacher can be Megan.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

- 1. Do you think it's necessary to learn how to swim? Why? Why not?
- 2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of swimming?
- 3. Do you think it's harder for grown-ups or children to learn how to swim?
- 4. How can you make swimming less tiring and more fun?
- 5. What do you think is the most difficult swimming style? Why do you think so?