GETTING TO KNOW YOU: 
LET’S GET PERSONAL

1. Elicit questions people usually ask when they meet someone for the first time. For example: ‘Where are you from?’ ‘What do you do?’, etc. Write the questions on the board, eliciting any difficult spelling. Drill the questions with the class, and use this opportunity to model the correct sentence stress (Where are you from? What do you do?). Explain that students are going to ask each other more unusual questions in the ‘Let’s get personal’ activity.

2. Divide the class into pairs (student A and student B). Give out photocopies of the questions, half for student A and half for student B. Tell them to choose six questions they would like to ask their partner and to mark these on their question sheet. Please be aware that the questions are divided into two sets; the second set are of a higher difficulty level and are slightly more controversial. You can choose which set of questions you would prefer to use.

3. Give out photocopies of the portrait page, one for each student in the class.

4. Ask students to take it in turns to ask each other the six questions they have chosen, one question per turn. They should aim to develop a discussion about each question. They should then write a summary of their partner’s answer in full sentences on the answer sheet but without mentioning their partner’s name. For example: 1. He sometimes gives money to beggars. 2. She thinks Italy has the most attractive men.

5. Monitor while students are doing the pair work activity and make a note of any mistakes that they make. Five minutes before the end of class, you could write some of their mistakes on the board and encourage peer/self-correction. Make sure that they note down the correct forms.

6. When students have finished writing the answers to all six questions, you could ask them to draw a sketch representing one of their partner’s answers in the picture frame in the centre of the page.

7. Collect all the answer sheets and redistribute them randomly around the class. Students mingle and ask questions until they identify who the answer sheet belongs to and give it to that person.

8. Make a display of the answer sheets as a class profile on the walls of the class.
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Pre-intermediate (A2) – Intermediate (B1)

STUDENT A

» What makes you happy?
» Who is your best friend?
» What is your favourite place?
» Where did you grow up?
» What makes you angry?
» What’s your favourite TV programme?
» Do you have any pets?
» Do you believe in aliens? Why?/Why not?
» What is your dream job?
» Do you like your name? Why?/Why not?

STUDENT B

» What is the best thing you own?
» What kind of music do you hate?
» What is your favourite drink?
» What did you have for breakfast today?
» Do you read your horoscope? Why?/Why not?
» What makes you sad?
» Which country has the most attractive men/women?
» Where is the best place to go on holiday?
» What was your first address?
» Are you a morning person or an evening person?
GETTING TO KNOW YOU: LET’S GET PERSONAL

Intermediate (B1) – Advanced (C1)

STUDENT A

» If you could be someone else for a day, who would you like to be?
» Have you ever wished you were the opposite sex?
» If you had to live on a desert island, what three objects would you take with you?
» When was the last time a film/book made you cry and what was it?
» Who would you most like to go on a date with?
» Are you worried about the future of the planet?
» Do you give money to beggars or homeless people?
» What was the last book you read?
» Who is the funniest person in the world?
» Who has had the biggest influence on your life?

STUDENT B

» Have you ever been in love and how would you describe it?
» What do you think is the perfect age to get married?
» When was the last time you danced?
» What objects do you always carry with you?
» Who is the most boring person in the universe?
» What would I find if I looked under your bed?
» What ability that you don’t have would you like to have?
» What’s the first thing you would say to the U.S. president if you met them?
» What would you change about yourself if you could?
» What is the most expensive thing you own?
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