



TESOL TRAINERS

YOUR SCAFFOLD TO SUCCESS



Mixing-n-Mingling

Big Idea: Adding movement and interaction to an activity, increases student engagement and opportunities to practice the language and content of the class.

Overview: In this activity, our students mingle around the room asking and answering 'silly questions'.

Benefits: There are a host of benefits to using this technique:

- It helps physicalize learning.
- It reaches those learners who may know but do not respond well in a whole class and/or group environment.
- It encourages students to use the language.
- It allows multi-level interaction.
- It creates community

Time: 5-10 minutes

Preparation: 0-10 minutes

Procedure:

1. Bring students' attention to the activity's objective.
2. Review some questions and possible answers.
3. Be transparent about the length of the activity (e.g. speak with three people).
4. Model the interaction
5. Pass out the questions.
6. Students stand and mingle.
7. Students find a partner; they ask and answer the questions; then, they trade questions.
8. Finally, students begin to mingle once again, as they search for a new partner.
9. When done, elicit responses from students.

Variations:

- Have students use visuals, manipulatives, etc.
- Give students a specific number of tasks. e.g. *'ask the question to five people'*