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English Self-Directed Learning Activities ³

Language Learning Center 77-1005, Passport Rewards

EC05. Avoiding Trouble in Conversations

	EC05: Avoiding Trouble in Conversations
Studer	nt Name: Student ID Number:
Instru	ctor: Level: Date:
	For media links in this activity, visit the LLC ESL Tutoring website for Upper Level SDLAs. Find
	your SDLA number to see all the resources to finish your SDLA.
Al	l listening and activities in this SDLA have been adapted from "Step Up 1: Listening, Speaking, and Critical Thinking" with permissions of the authors, Margaret Teske and Peggy Marcy.
	Section 1: Introduction
	sten to the conversations for Section 1. Pause after Conversation 1 to answer the questions. Listen as times as necessary.
Conve	rsation 1: A Study Plan
1.	Why is Mike going to help Pam?
2.	Where are they going to meet to work on homework?
3.	When are they meeting?
4.	Will there possibly be some trouble or misunderstandings?
5.	What do you think will happen?
Conve	rsation 2: A Problem with a Computer
6.	What thing(s) did the man, Harry, learn about Angela?
7.	What thing(s) did Angela learn about Harry?
8.	Do you believe Harry's story about his computer? Why or why not?

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9. Will there possibly be some trouble or misunderstandings?

10. What do you think will happen? _____

Appropriate Inappropriate

Section 2: Identify Appropriateness

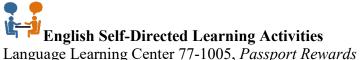
Talking to strangers can be scary. It is important to know what is appropriate (okay) to say and what is inappropriate (not okay).

"No, I don't need any help, but thanks anyway."

Part 1: Mark the sentences below as appropriate or inappropriate. Be prepared to explain your answer. (Hint: Three can be marked inappropriate.)

	2					
	3					
	4	"You were a b	"You were a big help. Thanks a lot."			
	5	"Want to stud	"Want to study for the test at Starbucks this evening?" "Is anyone sitting here?" "Your lunch really stinks. Can you eat it outside instead of in the class?"			
	6	"Is anyone siti				
	7	"Your lunch re				
	8 "I like your shoes. Where did you get them?"					
Part 2: Listen to the conversations for Section 2 Part 2. Mark the conversations as appropriate or inappropriate. Explain why you chose your answer.						
Appropriate Inappropriate Why?			appropriate Why?			
	Conversation 1.					
	Conversation 2.					
	Conversation 3.					
	Conversation 4.					
	Conversation 5.					

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Section 3: Practice Responding to Inappropriate Comments

So, what can we do or say when someone makes inappropriate comments? Here are some suggestive comments and responses.

- 1. Remove yourself from these situations. It's okay to move away or turn your back on a person who is disrespecting you. Suggestion: Ignore them. Don't say anything.
- 2. **Defend yourself and tell them you are uncomfortable with their comment.** Suggestion: "This conversation is making me uncomfortable." Or "I don't agree with what you just said, and I'm going to leave this conversation."
- 3. Confront the person on their misbehavior (if you feel safe doing so). Suggestion: "Would you like to explain your unacceptable comment?" Or "Could you tell me why you made that inappropriate comment?"

In conversations from Section 2 Part 2, how would you respond to people making inappropriate comments? Listen again as necessary. The first one is done as an example.

Conversation 1: Man and woman meet for the first time

Man A: You are a very healthy and beautiful woman. Are you married?

Your response: Thank you. Excuse me, I need to go.

Conversation 2: Boyfriend and girlfriend order at a restaurant

Boyfriend: Yes, we're ready to order. My girlfriend and I would like two hamburgers, two salads, and two drinks.

Waitress: Hi, what's your name, handsome?

Your response:

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Conversation 3: Woman and man taking the same class

Tanya: Hey Byron. Can you help me write my research paper for sociology class?

Byron: Well, I could help you, Tanya. But, if I do help, then you would have to go on a date with me. What do you say?

Your response:

Conversation 4: Male friend compliments female friend at her wedding

Man A: Hi Evelyn. Congratulations to you and your new husband Bill on your wedding. You are so beautiful today, and you smell wonderful.

Your response:

Conversation 5: Young man and young woman meet for the first time on campus

Man A: I can't believe you're so beautiful. I'm surprised I haven't seen you here before.

Woman B: Thanks for the complement.

Man A: What's your name? Do you live near here? Would you like to come to my apartment for dinner?

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Section 4: What Did I Learn?

Complete this table BEFORE meeting with a tutor.

Communication Skill	I can't do this YET.	I can do this WITH help.	I can do this WITHOUT help.	I can TEACH this to a classmate.
I can understand details in casual conversations (Section 1).				
I can identify appropriate and inappropriate comments and situations.				
I can change inappropriate conversations into appropriate ones.				

Here are some words/phrases I need to practice.			

Good Job!

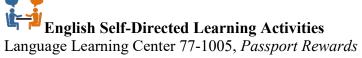
Now make an appointment

with a tutor on the LLC ESL Tutoring Website

(www.mtsac.edu/llc/passportrewards/llctutoring).

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Section 5: Practice with a Tutor!

Meet with a tutor. Give this paper to the tutor. The tutor will review your work and talk with you.

Grading Rubric

Possible Points	Need Practice	Good Job	Excellent Work
	•••		
	(0-1 Point)	(2-3 Points)	(4-5 Points)
Content	Not enough information	Provides most important	Provides all necessary
	provided in responses and	information in responses	information in responses
	often does not use correct	and some of the time uses	and most of the time uses
	vocabulary.	correct vocabulary.	correct vocabulary.
Skill: Speaking	More than 6 mistakes	Not more than 5 mistakes	Not more than 2 mistakes
	saying words; needs	saying words; needs	saying words; needs no
	guessing more than 3 times.	guessing on 1-2 words or sentences.	guess about meaning.
Oral Fluency	Speaks mostly in phrases,	Sometimes speaks in	Speaks in complete
	individual words; many	complete sentences; several	sentences; a couple pauses
	pauses.	pauses.	okay.
*Students must receive at least 10 points to move on Possible Points:			

*Students must receive at least 10 points to move on	Possible Points:
Tutor Comments:	
Congratulations! Keep going. You have successfully completed this SDLA and are	Work on this more. You have not yet mastered this SDLA. It is
ready to continue to the next.	recommended that you complete it again.
Tutor Signature:	Date:

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