### Asking Questions

**Unit:** Communication Skills  
**Theme:** Questioning Techniques  
**Topic:** Asking Clarifying Questions

**Objectives:**
- To recognize need to clarify information; put together clarifying questions.
- ESL Level: 1/2
- Length of Session: 2-40 minute sessions over 5 days.

**Materials**
- Asking questions sheet (can be enlarged and copied)
- Individual conversations can be played up to poster size
- Asking Clarifying Questions: Conversation sheet (individual conversations can be enlarged and copied)

**Activities**
- **WARM-UP—Day One (5 minutes)**
  - Speak gibberish, very fast or use very difficult vocabulary and then look expectantly at the students. Try this a few times until someone says, "I don’t understand."
  - Introduce "I don’t understand." Say, "I don’t understand." Practice "I don’t understand." Say phrases to various students that you understand.

- **THROUGH**
  - Practice "I don’t understand." By saying things to various students that they don’t understand and having them tell you so.

- **PRESERVATION—Day One (10 minutes)**
  - Practice Conversation One (on Conversation sheet), introducing any vocabulary they don’t know.
  - Read it as a class.
  - Vocabulary they don’t know.

- **GUIDED PRACTICE—Day One (5 minutes)**
  - Have students practice in pairs.
  - Call on individuals to do the conversations.

- **WARM-UP—Day Two (5 minutes)**
  - Review "I don’t understand." and Practice Conversation One.

- **PRESENTATION—Day Two (5 minutes)**
  - Introduce: "How do you spell that?" "How do you write that?" "How do you pronounce that?" "Can you say ___________?" "That’s ______________?" "You said _____________?" "Where again?" "When again?" "What does "

**ESL/CoC Standards**
- To recognize need to clarify information; put together clarifying questions.

**Vocabulary Introduced**
- I don’t understand.
- How do you spell that?
- How do you write that?
- How do you pronounce that?
- Can you say ___________?
- That’s ______________?
- You said _____________?
- Where again?
- When again?
- What does __________ mean?

**INTO**
- Form/function: Yes/No questions; WH questions
- Ask for clarification and explanation
- Language arts standards: 1-Use probing questions
- Length of session: 5-40 minute sessions over 5 days
- ESL Level: 1/2

**NAEP Objectives**
- Form and express opinions and ideas
- Ask for clarification and explanation

**SCANS/EFF Common Activities**
- Communicate effectively: Speak so can be understood; listen actively
- Learn and apply standards: Speak so can be understood; listen actively
- Develop clarifying questions
- Summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize information; pull together clarifying questions
- Construct questions
- Questioning Techniques
- To recognize need to clarify information; put together clarifying questions
- Communication Skills
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Demonstrate Performance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DAY ONE</strong></td>
<td><em>GUIDED PRACTICE</em> (5 minutes)&lt;br&gt;Practice the conversations as above.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY TWO</strong></td>
<td><em>GUIDED PRACTICE</em> (10 minutes)&lt;br&gt;Practice conversations Five, Six, and Seven as above.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY THREE</strong></td>
<td><em>GUIDED PRACTICE</em> (10 minutes)&lt;br&gt;Practice conversations Five, Six, and Seven as above.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY FOUR</strong></td>
<td><em>GUIDED PRACTICE</em> (10 minutes)&lt;br&gt;Practice the conversations as above.</td>
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**SCANS: BASIC SKILLS—LISTENING, SPEAKING**
- Can understand and express themselves in pairs.
- Can understand and express themselves in groups.
- Can understand and express themselves in public.
- Can understand and express themselves in various settings.

**EFP: SPEAK SO OTHERS**
- Speak so others can understand; listen actively.
- Speak so others can understand; listen actively.
- Speak so others can understand; listen actively.
**PRESENTATION—Day Four**

10 minutes


**GUIDED PRACTICE—Day Four**

15 minutes

- Practice Conversations Eight to Twelve

**WARM-UP—Day Five**

10 minutes

- Distribute or write the information on the board.
- Review the notes under Day Five.
- Demonstrate how to use question cards.

**PRESENTATION—Day Five**

10 minutes

- Distribute first cards.
- Demonstrate how to use question cards.

**GUIDED PRACTICE—Day Five**

20 minutes

- Students ask each other questions on cards and then follow-up.
- Students will be able to ask clarifying questions and say “I don’t know.”

**APPLICATION**

When necessary,

- Students will be able to ask clarifying questions and say “I don’t know.”

**BEYOND**

- Clarifying question (or say “I don’t know.”)
- Students ask each other questions on cards and then a follow-up.

**GUIDED PRACTICE—Day Five (10 minutes)**

- Distribute question cards.
- Demonstrate how to use question cards.

**PRESENTATION—Day Five (10 minutes)**

- Review board.
- Distribute the information on the board.

**GUIDED PRACTICE—Day Five (15 minutes)**

- Practice Conversations Eight to Twelve.

**WARM-UP—Day Five (10 minutes)**

- Practice Conversations Eight to Twelve.

**APPLICATION**

When necessary,