

# Making contact

Tutor Resources for the AMEP

A new life

Post-beginner

## **Tutor Resources for the AMEP**

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### **Acknowledgements**

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. Nationally, AMEP Distance/e-learning is delivered through the AMEP FLN Consortium.

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Theme:

A new life

Topic:

Making contact

Task	Language focus	Learning activities	Resources
<p>1. Can understand ways to meet new people</p> <p>Can participate in short casual conversations</p>	<p><b>Vocabulary</b> neighbour, humid, moved, retired, community centre, question tags</p> <p><b>Structure</b> It is a bit humid today, isn't it? You live in these flats, don't you?</p>	<p>Answer questions about a story</p> <p>Role play meeting each other for the first time</p> <p>Get to know their community centre</p> <p>Read about conversation starters</p> <p>Form and ask questions about a picture</p> <p>Discuss and answer questions about casual conversation topics</p> <p>Read about question tags</p> <p>Match tag questions to responses</p>	<p>Worksheet 1: Meeting a neighbour</p> <p>Worksheet 2: Meeting a neighbour dialogue</p> <p>Worksheet 3: Meeting at a community centre</p> <p>Worksheet 4: Starting a conversation</p> <p>Worksheet 5: Casual conversation</p> <p>Worksheet 6: Question tags</p> <p>Worksheet 7: Answering questions</p>

<b>Theme:</b>	<b>A new life</b>
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Making contact</b>

<b>Task 1:</b>	Can understand ways to meet new people Can participate in short casual conversations
<b>Vocabulary:</b>	neighbour, humid, move, retired, community centre, question tags
<b>Language structure:</b>	It is a bit humid today, isn't it? You live in these flats, don't you

**Activity instructions**

*Answer questions about a story*

- 📄 Worksheet 1: Meeting a neighbour  
Learner reads the story.  
Ask questions: Where does Lydia come from?  
How long has she been in Australia?  
Where does she live?  
Does she have family and friends in Australia?  
How does she feel?  
How does she meet Jan?  
Who is Jan?

Ask questions about learner: Do you have family here?  
Do you have many friends here?  
Do you feel lonely sometimes?  
How can you meet your neighbours and make new friends?  
Where can you meet new friends?  
Have you met your neighbours?  
Do you know their names?  
Do you know where they come from?  
Are they friendly? Why? Why not?  
Are your neighbours good or bad? Why?  
Do you have any Australian friends?  
If a neighbour like Jan started talking to you would you talk to her or would you be too shy?

*Role play meeting each other for the first time*

- 📄 Worksheet 2: Meeting a neighbour dialogue
- A. Read the dialogue and learner listens.  
The script may be repeated up to three times. (Because it is a dialogue between Lydia and Jan it may be useful to point to their picture as you say their lines.)

## Script

<b>Jan:</b>	Hello. It's a bit humid today isn't it?
<b>Lydia:</b>	It is. And it looks like it might rain.
<b>Jan:</b>	Yeah I think so. You live in these flats don't you? I thought I saw you and your husband last Saturday. I'm Jan from flat 7 on the second floor.
<b>Lydia:</b>	Hello Jan. My name is Lydia. Yes I have lived here for about three months. Have you lived here long?
<b>Jan:</b>	Oh yes, I've lived here for about ten years with Bill my husband. Before that we lived in Sydney. We moved up here when Bill retired. It is a nice place to live. The neighbours are really good. Have you met any of the neighbours?
<b>Lydia:</b>	No I haven't. You are my first neighbour.
<b>Jan:</b>	Well, I will introduce you to some of them. So would you like to come to my flat tomorrow about 10.30 and have a cuppa with Bill and me and also our next door neighbour, Lily.
<b>Lydia:</b>	Thank you that would be great. Jan, it was lovely meeting you and I'll see you tomorrow.
<b>Jan:</b>	Yes lovely. See you then.

- B. Learner ticks what the story is about.  
Read the script again to check the learner's answers.

Ask questions: What do Lydia and Jan talk about?  
In your country what things do you talk about with someone you have just met?

- C. Read the dialogue together.  
Ask learner to underline any words they don't understand. Discuss the meanings or learner uses a dictionary.  
Read the dialogue several times reversing roles.

Role play meeting each other for the first time.

**Get to know their community centre**

- 📄 Worksheet 3: Meeting at a community centre  
Read the dialogue together several times, changing roles each time.  
Learner answers the questions first orally then in writing.

Discuss the community centre as a way to meet new people and to learn new things.  
It may be useful to contact the learner's nearest community centre and get their brochure on the activities they hold and also the hours they are open. You can use this brochure as a reading activity. If your learner seems to be interested, take a trip to their local community centre to introduce them to the centre and also show them how to get there.

**Read about conversation starters**

- 📄 Worksheet 4: Starting a conversation
- A. Learner reads the different ways of starting a conversation.  
Using these different starters practise having a short conversation.
- B. Learner reads the questions on the worksheet and asks the questions to the tutor.  
Reverse roles.

### *Form and ask questions about a picture*

- 📄 Worksheet 4: Starting a conversation
- C. Show the picture of Lily and her baby on the worksheet and discuss.  
Ask questions: Who is she?  
What is she doing?

Learner asks questions of Lily on the topics (1-8) on the worksheet, e.g. How long have you been in Australia?

- D. Learner then writes their questions. (Check the writing is grammatically correct and that there is correct punctuation, i.e. question marks.)

### **Suggested answers**

- 1 – Where do you come from? What country do you come from?
- 2 – How long have you been in Australia?
- 3 – How old is your baby? What is your baby's name?
- 4 – Do you have any interests or hobbies?
- 5 – What do you like to do in your free time? What do you do in your free time?
- 6 – Do you like the weather in Australia? Why? Why not?
- 7 – What do you do? Do you work?
- 8 – Do you have any family in Australia?

Role play this scenario with the tutor being Lily and the learner asking the questions.  
Reverse roles.

### *Discuss and answer questions about casual conversation topics*

- 📄 Worksheet 5: Casual conversation  
Learner reads and discusses each question for their country, then ticks yes or no.  
Help learner answer the questions for Australia.

### *Read about question tags*

- 📄 Worksheet 6: Question tags  
Learner reads the worksheet.  
Role play the dialogue.

### *Match tag questions to responses*

- 📄 Worksheet 7: Answering questions  
Learner reads the questions on the worksheet.  
Learner writes the letter of the corresponding response next to its question.  
Ask learner questions on the worksheet. Learner responses using expression in their voice.

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## Worksheet 1: Meeting a neighbour

*Read the story.*



Lydia comes from Egypt. She has been living in Australia for about three months. She lives in a flat in Brisbane with her husband. She doesn't have any family or friends in Brisbane so she gets lonely during the day. She would like to meet more people, but she doesn't know how to go about it. Yesterday she went to the letter box to collect her mail where she met Jan, a neighbour, and they started chatting.

## Worksheet 2: Meeting a neighbour dialogue

A. Listen to what Lydia and Jan chatted about.



B. Tick (✓) the things Lydia and Jan talked about.

- work
- the weather
- Australia
- where they live
- the neighbours
- hobbies

*C. Read the dialogue.*

**Jan:** Hello. It's a bit humid today, isn't it?

**Lydia:** It is. And it looks like it might rain.

**Jan:** Yeah I think so. You live in these flats, don't you? I thought I saw you and your husband last Saturday. I'm Jan from flat 7 on the second floor.

**Lydia:** Hello Jan. My name is Lydia. Yes I have lived here for about three months. Have you lived here long?

**Jan:** Oh yes, I've lived here for about ten years with Bill my husband. Before that we lived in Sydney. We moved up here when Bill retired. It is a nice place to live. The neighbours are really good. Have you met any of the neighbours?

**Lydia:** No I haven't. You are my first neighbour.

**Jan:** Well, I will introduce you to some of them. So would you like to come to my flat tomorrow about 10.30 and have a cuppa with Bill and me and also our next door neighbour, Lily.

**Lydia:** Thank you that would be great. Jan, it was lovely meeting you and I'll see you tomorrow.

**Jan:** Yes lovely. See you then.

## Worksheet 3: Meeting at a community centre

*Read the dialogue and answer the questions.*

Last week Beata went to her local community centre.

**Sandra:** Hi, I m Sandra. Welcome to Annerley Community Centre.

**Beata:** Hello, my name is Beata.

**Sandra:** Hello Beata. I have not seen you here before. Is this your first visit here at the centre?

**Beata:** Yes it is.

**Sandra:** How can I help you?

**Beata:** Well, I have been in Annerley for six months and I don't have many friends so at times I get bored and a little lonely. A neighbour told me to come here, because there are lots of people and lots of things to do here.

**Sandra:** Yes that's right. There are many activities you can do and everyone here is very friendly. Do you live nearby?

**Beata:** Not far. I walked here today. It only took me ten minutes.

**Sandra:** That's great. Well let's have a cup of coffee and I'll tell you about all the things we do here.

**Beata:** Thank you. That would be very nice.

1. Where does Beata live? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How long has she lived there? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where did Beata go last week?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why did she go there?  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Who did she talk to? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Who is Sandra? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you think Beata will go to the community centre again? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 4: Starting a conversation



### A. Read these different ways of starting a conversation.

1. Hello. Are you David?
2. Hi. My name is Katerina.
3. Hello. I'm Louisa. I'm your next door neighbour.
4. Hi. I'm Sandra. I saw you at the community centre last week, didn't I?
5. My name is Bill. I live down the street.
6. Nice day, isn't it?

### B. Read and then ask your tutor these questions.

1. Where do you come from?
2. How long have you been in Australia?
3. Do you like living here?
4. Do you live near here?
5. Do you have any hobbies?
6. What do you like doing on the weekends?
7. What do you do?
8. Where do you study/work?

A new life: Making contact

C. Look at the picture of Lily and her baby.

D. Ask **her** questions about the topics below.



**Topics:**

1. Her country of origin
2. Her time in Australia
3. Her baby
4. Her interests or hobbies
5. Her free time
6. The weather in Australia
7. Work
8. Her family

E. Write your questions.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

## Worksheet 5: Casual conversation

When people meet for the first time, they get to know each other by asking and answering questions. The questions you ask can be OK in your culture but may not be in Australia.

*Work with your tutor and discuss each question.*  
*Is it polite to ask the question in your country and is it polite to ask in Australia?*  
 Tick **Yes** or **No**.

	Your country		Australia	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
1. Where are you from?				
2. Why did you leave your country?				
3. Where do you live?				
4. What's your address?				
5. Can I have your phone number?				
6. Would you like to go out with me?				
7. Are you married?				
8. Do you have you any children?				
9. Do you have boys or girls?				
10. Why don't you have any children?				
11. How old are your children?				
12. How old are you?				
13. Do you have a job?				
14. What do you do?				
15. How much money do you earn?				
16. What's your religion?				
17. I love your dress? How much was it?				

## Worksheet 6: Question tags

*Read and role play the dialogue*

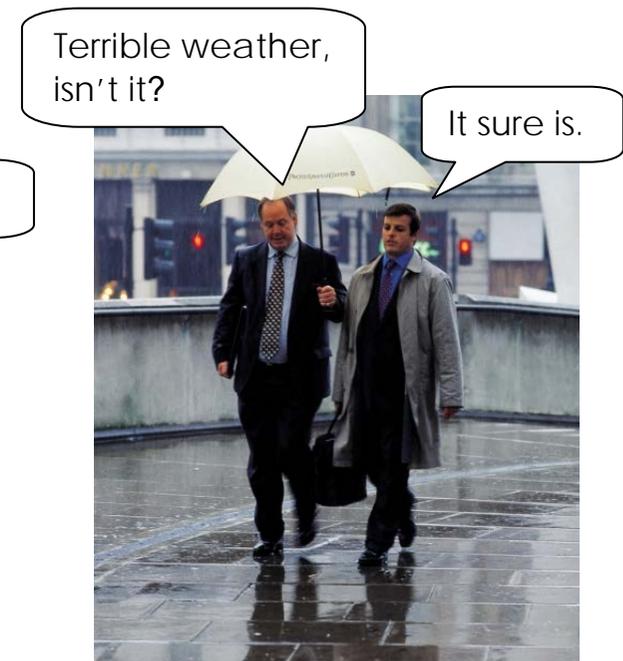
Each of these comments about the weather has **isn't it** at the end. We call this a question tag.



1



2



3

You can use **isn't it**, **is it**, **haven't you** etc at the end of a sentence to help keep the conversation going. These are called question tags.

## Worksheet 7: Answering questions

Match the tag questions with the responses.

Example

We've met before, haven't we?

a. Yes, it is wonderful!

1. She doesn't look well, does she?

b. Yes, it is like winter.

2. It's a beautiful view, isn't it?

c. Yes, but only on Saturdays.

3. This is the first time you have visited the  
community centre, isn't it?

d. No, there aren't. It must be too early.

4. You work in the bread shop, don't you?

e. Yes, I think we have.

5. There aren't many people here are there?

f. No, she looks very sick.

6. You live in these flats, don't you?

g. Yes it is.

7. It is freezing today, isn't it?

h. Yes I do. I've been here for about two months.