

Getting-to-know-you Treasure Hunt

This activity was designed to be played in an English Garden Party, to help guests and hosts get to know each other better and to give an opportunity for students to practise their English in a relaxed environment.

20 treasure boxes are hidden around the garden. In each box is an object and a (related) question. You could use ice cream tubs or washing machine tablet boxes.

Working in groups of 3-5 students, each with at least one team member, guests find each box, write down the object they find, and share their answers to the question. Each box also has a letter which the group notes and unscrambles at the end to form words, for example, "FRIENDS INTERNATIONAL".

This is not a race, so groups need not rush through it. We recommend you allow at least an hour for the activity though it could go faster with fewer boxes. If your garden party is scheduled to last longer than one hour, groups can take a break from the activity whenever they want to enjoy refreshments, play table tennis or badminton etc. Some groups will be more competitive than others: arguably the winner is the group which has had the most relaxed conversation.

Suggested items for treasure boxes

- i. Old greeting cards (or thank you card for everyone to sign to thank host if you are at someone else's house)
- ii. Marmite on small squares of bread (in a sealable bag)
- iii. DVD
- iv. Paper chain with names of hosts to start it off
- v. Cheap jewellery e.g. ring
- vi. Lavender in a bag
- vii. City guide
- viii. Small instrument e.g. harmonica, or capo
- ix. Tape measure
- x. Set of gloves e.g. bike, gardening, washing up, winter mitten etc.
- xi. Book
- xii. Bandage/plasters
- xiii. Brake block
- xiv. Picture frame
- xv. Toothbrush
- xvi. Foreign currency note
- xvii. Pool/snooker chalk block or golf tee
- xviii. Jobs ads
- xix. University pen
- xx. Sheet of paper with lots of different coloured ?????? on it.

NB We suggest that you do not put the boxes with the deeper questions (e.g. concerns coming to university, visit to hospital) nearest the house. These are for when groups have warmed to each other.

Suggested questions for treasure boxes

These are printed on the following 2 pages to be cut out.

<p>In the UK, it is still traditional to send greeting cards, especially on birthdays and at Christmas. When do you send greetings in your country? How did you celebrate your last birthday?</p>	<p>Try this English snack. People in the UK say that you will either love it or hate it. Is there a food like this in your country, which some people really like and other people don't like at all?</p>
<p>What is your favourite film/movie?</p>	<p>Write your name and add it to the paper chain. In your life, who would be the two 'links' closest to you? Why?</p>
<p>What is your most treasured possession? Why is it special to you?</p>	<p>Smell the bag – can you identify this smell? What is your favourite smell?</p>
<p>Where would you most like to visit while you are in the UK? / What is your favourite place in the UK?</p>	<p>Can you play a musical instrument? What sort of music do you like?</p>
<p>Stand in height order. Stand in age order. Did you have to move places?</p>	<p>Which glove (either one here or a different one) says most about your personality? Why?</p>

<p>Do you like to read? What is your favourite book?</p>	<p>Have you ever been in hospital? What happened?</p> <p>(NB You do not have to share the story if it is a painful memory).</p>
<p>What is your favourite method of transport? Why?</p>	<p>Which picture would you put in this photo frame?</p>
<p>What object do you use more than once a day?</p>	<p>If you had £15,000 in your own currency, what would you spend it on?</p>
<p>Do you know what this is used for? What sports do you like to play or watch?</p>	<p>What do you hope to do after university? / What did you do after finishing your studies (hosts)?</p>
<p>What are you studying? / What did you study / what was your favourite subject at school? (hosts)</p>	<p>What is your biggest concern coming to the UK / living in the UK?</p>

Treasure Hunt Worksheet

This is not a race!

1. Find 20 treasure boxes. Answer the questions in each box to get to know each other better. Write down each object below.

2. Note down the letter in each box on the other side of this sheet. Rearrange the letters to make two words:

_____ / _____

3. Send your most creative selfie of your team to _____ via WhatsApp (+44 _____).

Team Members: