

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Brainstorming and organizing information

TIME:	30 minutes
INTERACTION:	Pair work / individual
AIM:	To write a short autobiographical paragraph for a school / company newsletter.
TEXT TYPE:	Newsletter article / autobiography
REGISTER:	Informal
WRITING SKILLS:	Brainstorming ideas, organizing ideas, thinking about the reader
PREPARATION:	Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

PROCEDURE

EXERCISE 1

- Ask the students to read the text about Leo (written by Leo) – you can remind the students about the conversation between Leo and Mario in Unit 1, Lesson 3 in the Student's Book.
- Then, in pairs, ask the students to decide whether the seven sentences are true (✓) or false (✗). You may want to check this vocabulary: *interested in*.
- Check the answers.

ANSWERS:

1 ✓ 2 ✗ 3 ✗ 4 ✗ 5 ✗ 6 ✓ 7 ✓

EXERCISE 2

- Get the students to brainstorm, individually or in pairs, about themselves. Ask them to look at the diagram and fill in each section with information – encourage them to look at the text about Leo. Ask a few students to tell you some of the things they have put in the different sections.

Note: At this stage single words or short phrases are fine – they don't need to write sentences.

EXERCISE 3

- To organize the information from the brainstorming session, ask the students to use the information and write between five and eight sentences (again, refer the students to the sentences in the text about Leo). Then, ask the students to decide on the order of these sentences, i.e. the first sentence should be: *My name is ...*

EXERCISE 4

- Finally, the students get to write a short paragraph using *and* and *also* as in the model text, to link the sentences together.

This is a fluency-based piece of writing, which means that if you decide to pick up these pieces of writing, grade the writing only in terms of task completion (i.e. if they completed the task or not). The following should be included:

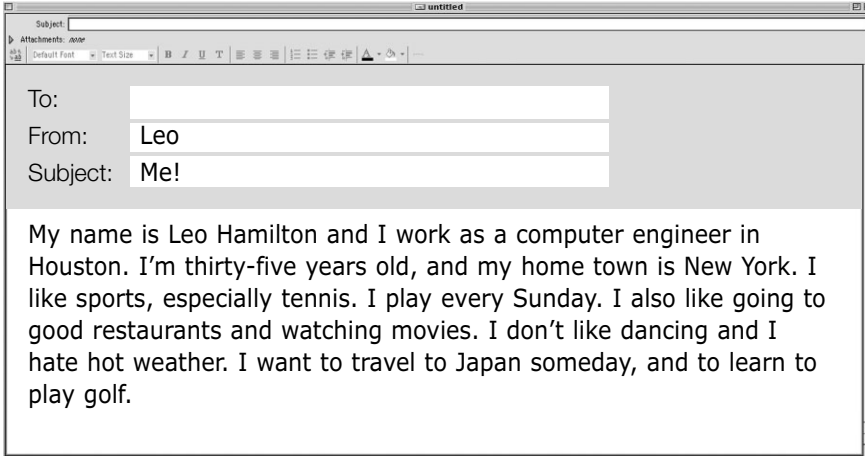
- personal details
- likes
- dislikes
- hopes or plans for the future (*I want ...*).

The students should also try to link the points together using *and* and *also*.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

EXERCISE 1

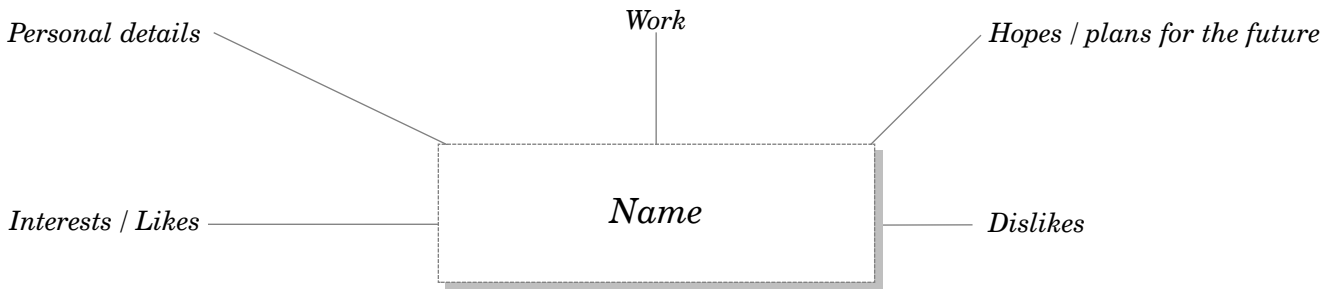
Read about Leo. Are the sentences below true (✓) or false (X) ?



- 1 Leo is a computer engineer.
- 2 He is from Houston.
- 3 He is forty years old.
- 4 He also likes dancing.
- 5 He wants to learn to dance.
- 6 He is interested in Japan.
- 7 He likes playing tennis.

EXERCISE 2

Think about yourself and write some information for each category below.



EXERCISE 3

Now, using the information from the brainstorming session, write five to eight sentences about yourself.

My name is ...

I work as ...

EXERCISE 4

Now write a short paragraph about yourself. Use *and* and *also* as in the model text about Leo.

My name is

and I

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....