

## **ESL Listening Activity: Conversations by Theme at Randall ESL Cyber Listening Lab**

*By Randall Davis*

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*Randall Davis, from Randall's ESL Cyber Listening, has created thematic listening/speaking activities for teachers and language learners so they can study (or teach) English based on topic for more focused practice.*

Although there are thousands of online listening and video resources on the Internet, few are organized and designed for language learners. The result is that students are left to try to filter through this content for meaningful chunks of study material. The end result can be frustration. To make things easier to find, Randall Davis, at Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab ([www.esl-lab.com](http://www.esl-lab.com)) has created a series of thematic activities for ESL/EFL students.

One of the most common ESL/EFL activities is teaching students how to introduce themselves. Without this knowledge, students will always be on the outside of all conversations looking in. To help students and teachers in learning more about this topic, Randall has created a series of free listening/speaking activities to aid in this process. The links below refer to different lessons on his site that teach personal introductions, and you can either follow this order or select the ones that best suit your needs.

Names: Learn common English names and how to pronounce them.

- <http://www.esl-lab.com/eslbasic/meetingpeople-1.htm>

Introductions

- <http://www.esl-lab.com/eslbasic/introductions-smalltalk-1.htm>

Small Talk

- <http://www.esl-lab.com/eslbasic/conversation-starters-1.htm>

Nice to Meet You

<http://www.esl-lab.com/childintro/childintrord1.htm>

Haven't We Met Before?

- <http://www.esl-lab.com/small/smallrd1.htm>

Each activity has pre-listening, listening, and post-listening activities to help learners practice their listening, speaking, and even vocabulary skills. The recordings have been formatted in both RealMedia and Windows Media formats. (With Windows Media, you can slow down the audio playback for careful listening.)

You can also visit Randall's other sites for more listening practice:

- [www.ezslang.com](http://www.ezslang.com)

- [www.dailyesl.com](http://www.dailyesl.com)

- [www.trainyouraccent.com](http://www.trainyouraccent.com)

- [www.tips4students.com](http://www.tips4students.com)

- <http://esl-lab.blogspot.com>

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About ESL-LAB.COM: Since 1998, Randall Davis has been developing free multimedia Websites for ESL/EFL students. Randall has also given presentations on educational technology, specifically helping teachers learn how to use technology in pedagogically-sound ways.

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