

Me Too: A speaking activity to practice expressing agreement

Directions for the teacher:

STEP 1 – On the board, create the following matching exercise. Have students note their choices on a piece of paper before correcting the matches as a class.

Statements

1. I like to read novels.
2. I don't enjoy watching sci-fi films.
3. I'll take a vacation before the end of the year.
4. I didn't eat a big dinner last night.

Responses

- a. I didn't either.
- b. I do, too.
- c. Neither do I.
- D. So will I.

STEP 2 – Review the correct matches: 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-a. Then ask to which statements a person can respond with the informal variations “Me neither” and “Me too”.

STEP 3 – Review the process of choosing the helping verb for such statements of agreement as well as the subject-verb inversion required with “so” and “neither”.

Response to affirmative statement: **subject + verb + “too” / “so” + verb + subject**

Response to negative statement: **subject + negative verb + “either” / “neither” + verb + subject**

STEP 4 – Select a handout according to the topic and verb tenses you wish to practice. Copy and cut out the question cards. Give one card to each student. They will have approximately 10 minutes to move around the room, asking one another their assigned questions. Each student must find three others with whom s/he can agree.

Example:

Student A – Do you listen to music every day?

Student B – Yes, I do.

Student A – So do I. / I do, too. [Student A must find two more student with similar habits.]

The names of classmates with whom a student can agree should be written on the back of the question card.

STEP 5 – Collect all the cards. Shuffle them. Start placing students in groups of 3 and 4 according to one thing they have in common. For example, the three students who all listen to music as well as the student who originally questioned them can form a group of 4. Give the groups the respective question cards to remind them of what they have in common.

STEP 6 – In their small groups, student must discover similarities and differences in their practices. They must note down 3-4 new facts. Their findings will be presented to the class by one volunteer. Model: “We all listen to music every day. I listen to soft rock. Roger does, too. Carla and Paul listen to hip-hop. Roger and Paul have mp3 players. Carla doesn't have one. Neither do I.”

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[present – habits/ hobbies/ personality]

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| Do you listen to music every day? | Do you cook for yourself? |
| Do you watch TV in the evenings? | Do you have a job? |
| Do you eat out at least once a month? | Do you rent an apartment? |
| Do you regularly read the newspaper? | Do you play sports? |
| Do you exercise regularly? | Do you talk on the phone a lot? |
| Do you use public transportation? | Do you play a musical instrument? |
| Can you sing? | Can you dance? |
| Are you usually laid-back and relaxed? | Are you optimistic? |
| Are you good at organizing events? | Are you comfortable with public speaking? |

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[past – habits/ childhood]

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| Were you shy as a child? | Were you scared of the dark as a child? |
| Did you play outside a lot as a child? | Did you help around the house as a child? |
| Did you argue a lot with your parents when you were growing up? | Did you study well in elementary school? |
| Could you climb trees as a child? | Could you ride a bike by the age of 7? |
| Did you ever go to a summer camp when you were a kid? | Did you collect bugs as a child? |
| Did you use a computer as a child? | Did you play sports as a child? |
| Did you ever lie to your parents as a child? | Did you like to watch cartoons as a child? |
| Were you interested in other cultures as a child? | Did you travel far to get to school as a child? |
| Did you speak more than one language as a child? | Did you take any kind of special lessons as a child? |

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[future – plans]

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| Will you move to a new home within the next year? | Will you continue studying English next year? |
| Will you be looking for new job later this year? | Will you be living in this country five years from now? |
| Are you going out this evening? | Are you going to eat dinner at home tonight? |
| Are you doing anything special this weekend? | Are you going to call anyone later today? |
| Will you use the computer later today? | Will you spend more than \$50 this weekend? |
| By this time next year, will you have reached your English language goals? | Will you study another language in the future? |
| Are you going to travel later this year? | Will you go skydiving in the future? |
| Will you go scuba diving in the future? | Will you ever change your hair color? |
| Do you need to do any shopping this week? | Are you visiting relatives in the near future? |