



Conversation activity



1

A: That was really interesting what the last speaker said about opening bank accounts in the Cayman Islands.

B: Yes, it was. **So, what do you do exactly?**

A: I'm an auditor, a forensic auditor.

B: Ah, urn, you're a forensic, urn, auditor?

A: Yes, that's right.

B: Right, oh. I see. Look at the time! I must get to the next presentation...

2

C: Mmm, lovely coffee! I needed that. I just flew in from London very early this morning. **How did you get here?**

D: I came on the TGV train from Paris.

C: Really? I've never been on the TGV. **How long did that take?**

D: Oh, about four hours. But I was able to have breakfast and do some reading.

C: That sounds nice. I must try it sometime. **Marseilles's really beautiful, isn't it?**

D: Yes, it is. **Have you been here before?** If you haven't, you must...

3

E: ...I'm certainly looking forward to the dinner this evening.

F: I am too. Especially the fish. We don't have much fish where I live.

E: Really? **Where do you come from then?**

F: Garmisch-Partenkirchen. It's in the mountains just near Munich. What about you?

E: I'm from Cork in Ireland. The high street is supposed to have more pubs than any other town in Ireland.

F: Really? I'm going there on a business trip soon to visit the Apple factory. I must see if I can find time to visit some...

4

G: ...and then I went jogging early this morning along by the sea. Fantastic sunrise coming up over the sea.

H: Really? Sunrise, you say?

G: Yes, amazing! Do you like jogging? You should try it, you know. It makes you feel really great all day long. Just set the alarm for 5.30, jump out of bed and after you've been running for about an hour or so, go back, have a shower and —

H: **Sorry, but do you know where I can smoke?** I think I want a cigarette before the next presentation. Ah, that way? Thanks

Understanding

Look again at the conversation strategies outlined in Useful tips. Match the conversations to the strategies they illustrate successfully or unsuccessfully.

Conversation 1

A. Talk about ordinary things with conviction and enthusiasm.

Conversation 2

B. Match your mood to that of the speaker.

Conversation 3

C. When saying where you come from, add something interesting about the place.

Conversation 4

D. When saying what your job is, add a small piece of information about it as well