

1 Warm up

What can you see in these pictures?



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

What verb can you use with all these activities?

Which activity do you prefer? Why?

2 Listening to a talk - Intro



You are going to listen to a TEDx Talk by Marianna Pascal. Pascal has worked for many years with businesses and organisations in Malaysia, training staff to be better communicators. She has also written a series of books called "English: Fast & Easy". Pascal is originally from Canada and used to work as an actor. She uses her acting skills to tell stories which explain her ideas.

Read the Introduction to Marianna's talk. What are the missing words? Use the first letters to help you decide. Then watch the Introduction and check your answers.

For the past 20 years, I've been helping Malaysian and other Southeast Asians to speak better English. And through training thousands of Southeast Asians, I've discovered a very surprising truth. I've discovered that how well somebody communicates in English actually has very little to do with their English level. It has a lot to do with their attitude towards English.

There are people out there who have a very low level of English, and they can communicate very very well. One of them that I remember was a student, a participant of mine, named Faizal. He was a factory supervisor – English level very very low – but this guy could just sit and listen to anybody, very calmly, clearly, and then he could respond, absolutely express his thoughts beautifully, at a very low level of English.

So, today I want to share with you what is so d_____ about people like Faizal? How do they do it? And second of all, why is this so i_____ not only to you, but to your children, to your community, and to the future of Malaysia? And third of all, what's one thing you can do, starting today, if you want to speak with that c_____, clear confidence that people like Faizal have.

- Does Marianna think there is a strong relationship between a person's English level and how well he/she communicates in English?
- How many main points is Marianna going to make in her talk?

3 Watching for the main idea

Marianna's talk has five parts, and in each part, she tells a story which relates to one of these pictures. Watch the whole talk and put the pictures in order. One picture is extra (write 'extra' under it).



a. _____



b. _____



c. _____



d. _____



e. _____



f. _____

4 Watching for detail - Part 1

- to dread something
- to screw up
- to judge someone

- Which one is a phrasal verb? Are phrasal verbs usually formal or informal?
- Which one is the opposite of *look forward to something*?
- Is it a positive or negative experience if someone judges you?

- What did Marianna's daughter dread? Why?
- What do many Malaysians fear about conversations in English? Why?

5 Watching for detail - Part 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. disgusting | a. a feeling of not being confident to speak with other people |
| 2. embarrassment | b. a feeling you get when you are thinking more about yourself than about what you're doing |
| 3. gross | c. a feeling you get when you've done something wrong; your face usually goes red when this happens |
| 4. lousy (<i>American English</i>) | d. informal - very unpleasant |
| 5. self-awareness | e. very bad: of low quality or unskilled |
| 6. shyness | f. very unpleasant |

- a. How were these two people the same? How were they different?
- b. Who was having more fun?
- c. Which person is likely to continue their activity for longer? What will the result of this be?