

university preparation

WORKSHEET - LELA

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lela shares some interesting observations from her experience. If you are working by yourself think about the following questions. If you are working with other students make a group and discuss the following questions.

1. When Lela first started at university she didn't know anyone. Finally, she initiated a conversation with some Aussie girls. She asked them some questions, even though she knew her English was not perfect.

What sort of questions do you think she asked? What sort of questions could you ask if you wanted to start a conversation with another student in a tutorial?

2a. She avoided speaking to her lecturers because in China only students who are not doing well and need help speak to the teacher. In Australia students who speak to their lecturers are seen as being interested in their studies.

How does this compare with your experience of speaking with teachers?

2b. At university, if you want to speak to a lecturer after class you should make an appointment or communicate through email.

How does this compare with your experience of speaking with teachers?

3. She found writing essays in English difficult and she also found reading for essays difficult. Reading at university requires knowing how to:

- search for books in the library,
- choose the appropriate readings,
- choose the appropriate sections in a reading,
- summarise and
- paraphrase.

Which of these skills can you practise before you start studying at university?

Did you know that La Trobe University students can go to workshops to develop these sorts of skills?