

## Online Community

### LESSON PLAN: Introduction to the Online Discussion

Name of Unit to which lesson is linked: **Community Resources**

#### LANGUAGE LEVEL

Low Intermediate ESL

High Intermediate ESL

#### LANGUAGE SKILL

Listening

Speaking

Reading

Writing

#### OVERVIEW OF INSTRUCTION

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce learners to the Online Discussion and to help them become familiar with how to read and participate in discussions.

**Materials:** Computers with Internet access, copies of discussion posts, paper and pencils.

#### Objectives:

Students will become familiar with Project Connect Online Discussion.

Students will know how to access the discussion, learn about what topics are there now, and practice reading and posting in the discussion.

Students will be able to describe their first day in the USA in writing.

#### Procedure:

Give a brief overview of what we will be doing in class today. Write steps on board.

(1. Read and discuss posts. 2. Share experiences. 3. Go to computer lab and follow guide for online discussion.)

Read and discuss two posts about people's first day in the USA. [If you have a new license, you will have to wait until people post to the My Story section of the Online Discussion before you can do this activity.] Make sure everyone understands the vocabulary. Students will likely point out grammar and spelling mistakes they see – or invite them to look for them.

Ask students to talk about their first experiences in the USA. How are the experiences similar? How are they different? Help them find ways to express what they want to write in their posts.

Give them the guide (the following practice sheet) for using the Online Discussion.

Explain that they are going to find the posts you have read in class and either reply to a post or write a new post. Read through the guide together and address any questions they have.

#### Evaluation:

Students will be able to access the Online Discussion and make a post.

Have a brief discussion at the end of class for students to share what they learned, what problems they may have had, and ideas for other topics to include in the Online Discussion.

## PRACTICE SHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Online Discussion

Today you are going to participate in the Online Discussion on Project Connect. You will read some posts about people's first days in the USA. You will also practice writing. You can write a post about your first day in the USA or reply to one of the other posts.

I will be here to help you with anything you need. So don't worry! Enjoy being part of a discussion with other adults around the USA learning English.

1. Login. Enter your username and password. Hit enter.
2. Click on "Online Community" to go to the Online Discussion.
3. On the next page, click on "Go to Online Discussion".
4. Click on My Story.
5. Read some of the postings.  
If you want to reply click on Post a reply and write your reply.  
If you want to read the next post, click on next post at the bottom of the page.
6. You can post something new by clicking on Start a new subject and write your post.
7. In your posts, always include your name and what city and state you live in.
8. To send your post, click on "Post". If you change your mind and don't want to send your post, you can always click on "Cancel".

Great Job!