



Access English Centre  
Immigrant Centre Manitoba  
High Beginner Level: Warm-up Activity  
**Guess Who?**  
15 minutes



**Objective/Goal:**

Gives participants the opportunity to practice descriptive words about each other.

**Materials:**

Participants need:

- none

Facilitator needs:

- whiteboard
- whiteboard markers
- Optional: For Extension Activity E: -  
computer(with internet access)
- projector
- screen
- bag or hat
- pre-labeled index cards of all the  
participants' names

**Procedure:**

Before the Activity:

1) **Place** all the name cards in the bag/hat.

Activity Instructions:

2) **Explain** to the whole group a guessing game will be played.

3) First, as a whole group **discuss** about **adjectives**.

4) The facilitator can **explain**-“**Adjectives**” (words that describe a person, place, or thing) if the word is unfamiliar to the whole group.

5) **Brainstorm** some adjectives together.(Optional: words can be written on the whiteboard)

Ex. short-petite

tall

skinny-slim

fat-robust

red

brown

etc.



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- 6) The participants may **use** negative adjectives but have them **focus** on positive adjectives. For example emphasize "petite" over "short", etc.
- 7) **Instruct** the participants that you will say some sentences describing one of the participants. They must guess who you are describing.
- 8) Ex. She is tall. She has brown hair and green eyes. She is wearing gold earrings. The participant is wearing a red jacket. **Guess who?**
- 9) The participants **answer**, "Ex. Sandy!"
- 10) **Affirm** their response. Ex. "Great job, yes, I was talking about Sandy."
- 11) **Ask** for a volunteer.
- 12) **Ask** the whole group how would describe the volunteer?
- 13) The volunteer will **choose** 1 card from the hat/bag, making sure that no one sees the name.
- 14) The volunteer will **think** a minute about the participant whose name was drawn out of the bag/hat.
- 15) The volunteer will then **say** 3-5 sentences describing the person.
- 16) Ex. He has dark hair and brown eyes. He has an earring in his left ear. He is very tall. **Guess who?**
- 17) The other participants try to **guess** the appropriate person. Ex. Sergio
- 18) Everyone **takes** a turn. Then the next person **chooses** a name from the bag and does the same process.
- 19) The more detailed the description-the easier or harder to guess the person.
- 20) **Give** hints: describe hair, height, jewellery, clothes, shoes, etc.

Extension Activities:

- **Extension Activities are alternative or extra activities that can be done to**



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*supplement the main activity when there is extra time. They can also be done in the next class as a review of previous vocabulary or conversation.*

- A. For higher levels of English**, try this activity once the whole group has been together for a longer period of time. The participants will know more about each other. Make the game more challenging by saying descriptions which do not involve physical attributes/characteristics but more character/personality traits or personal preferences. Ex. likes or dislikes

Ex. This person enjoys listening to country music. He/she loves Taylor Swift. This person likes coffee but not tea. He/she wants to become a veterinarian. He/she has 4 cats and loves animals. Guess who? Ex. **Lydia**

- B.** You can divide the whole group into **2 smaller groups** but have 2 bags with 1 set of all the participants' name cards in each bag.

- C.** Instead of name cards, have **animal cards** or other cards, the participants can describe animals, shapes, etc.

Ex. I am strong and fast. I can be brown, black, white, and speckled.

I can run free and stay in a barn. I like to eat hay and oats. **Guess what I am?**

To download animal flashcards, go to:

<http://www.havefunteaching.com/flash-cards/science/animals/mammal-flash-cards-small.pdf>

\*50 flashcards of free real-life animal flashcards

- D.** For a more **challenging activity**, have the participants create descriptions using synonyms or **antonyms**. Challenge them to use more uncommon words.

Ex. Instead of saying, "Sharon has blonde hair. Say: Sharon has **honey-coloured** hair." or

Ex. Describe the opposite of someone using antonyms:

In reality: She is tall. She has brown hair and green eyes. She is wearing gold earrings. The participant is wearing a red jacket. (Ex. Sandy) but say instead the opposite:

"She is petite. She has **blonde** hair and **blue** eyes. She is wearing a **necklace**. The participant is wearing red **pants**." The boldfaced words are opposites of the original example.

\*Remember to emphasize **positive characteristics** not negative ones. If they use negative ones then correct the participants.



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(Ex. Please say "petite" instead of "short" or "robust" sounds better than "fat".  
This will help participants to increase their vocabulary.

**E.** Please see the websites for additional info or to share and display to the participants:

<http://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/adjectives-personality-positive.htm>  
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/wordlist/adjectivesforpeople.shtml>