



Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Multi-level: Warm-up Activity
In My Home Country
15 minutes



Objective/Goal:

This warm-up activity gives participants the opportunity to share stories about their home countries.

Materials:

Participants need:

- own photos or personal items from their home country
Ex. decoration
- Optional: calendar pictures

Facilitator needs:

- whiteboard and whiteboard markers
- Computer and projector with internet access (Optional: to show news photos/pictures)

Procedure:

Before the Activity:

- 1) **Instruct** the participants to bring in their own personal photos or any items from their home country.
- 2) **Write**: "***In my Home Country***" on the whiteboard.
- 3) **Explain** to the participants that each person will tell their partner about his/her personal photo or item. Then his/her partner will do the same.
- 4) **Write** on the whiteboard the following prompts:
Who=?
Where=?
When=?
Why=?
What=? [What is taking place(activity)?]
- 5) **Show** your picture. **Talk** about the picture: who is in the picture, where was the photo taken, what activity is taking place.



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Examples:

- 1) **Beginner:** Talk as much as they can.
- 2) **Intermediate:** Discuss using prompts.
- 3) **Advanced:** Discuss freely.

- 6) If there is time at the end, have each pair **share** their results with the whole group.

Extension Activities:

- A. If the participant forgot to bring his/her personal item have some interesting pictures(calendar) or news pictures on-hand for the participant to use.
 - B. For higher English levels, **encourage** the participants to use more **descriptive language**(Ex. use of adjectives).
- Ex. In my home country, we always had big family dinners. Here is a picture of my **large** family. My husband is the **tall** one with a **big** moustache. I have **five** children: Stepen, Leo, Kara, Jamal, and Frieda. Kara and Frieda are twins. Kara is the **tall** one with pigtails. Frieda is shorter with **curly** hair. Stephen is almost as **tall** as his father. Both Leo and Jamal have **dark** hair. My grandma always sits beside the twins. Our parents also come for family dinners.....