

IMPROVING SPEAKING THROUGH INTERESTING PICTURES

Procedure

Halis Bereket | BEREKET ELT ARCHIVE

Working seminar principle: *The picture starts the conversation; the teacher's questions help it grow.*

Suggested Procedure

1. **Observe** — Give learners time to look at the picture before asking for answers.
2. **Describe** — Begin with simple questions about what learners can actually see.
3. **Interpret** — Encourage possible explanations, inferences and different viewpoints.
4. **Predict** — Ask what may have happened before or what might happen next.
5. **Personalise** — Connect the picture with learners' own experiences, preferences and opinions.
6. **Reveal** — When appropriate, tell the real story behind the photograph after learners have had time to speculate.

The questions on the following pages are prompts, not a fixed script. Select and adapt them according to learners' age, language level, interests and the time available.

Public-use note: In public versions, identifiable children or students should be anonymised where necessary. When discussing photographs, distinguish what learners can actually see from what they are inferring or imagining.

Slide 1 — Improving Speaking through Interesting Pictures

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Slide 2 — The Dog with Sunglasses

What catches your eye first?

Slide 3 — The Milk Seller

What is unusual about these bottles?

Slide 4 — The Veteran Champion

What has just happened?

Slide 5 — The Teacher and the Donkeys

What is this man doing — and why?

Slide 6 — Father and Child on the Trail

What does this picture tell you about them?

Slide 7 — Eating with the Hands

What do you notice about the way the meal is being eaten?

Slide 8 — Acrobatics on Horseback

How difficult do you think this is?

Slide 9 — A Nature Trip: Looking Closely

What is worth noticing when we slow down?

Slide 10 — From Tree to Tea: Linden

Can you recognise this tree — and this drink?

Slide 11 — The Mehter Band

What can you hear — even from a still picture?

Slide 12 — Teamwork and Balance

How are they managing to do this?

Slide 13 — The Simit Seller

What can one picture tell us about work?

Slide 14 — Indoor Döner: An Improvised Solution

What has been improvised here?

Slide 15 — The Swimming-Pool Moment

What happened one second before this photograph?

Slide 16 — Pigeons at the Mosque

How many different stories can you find in this picture?