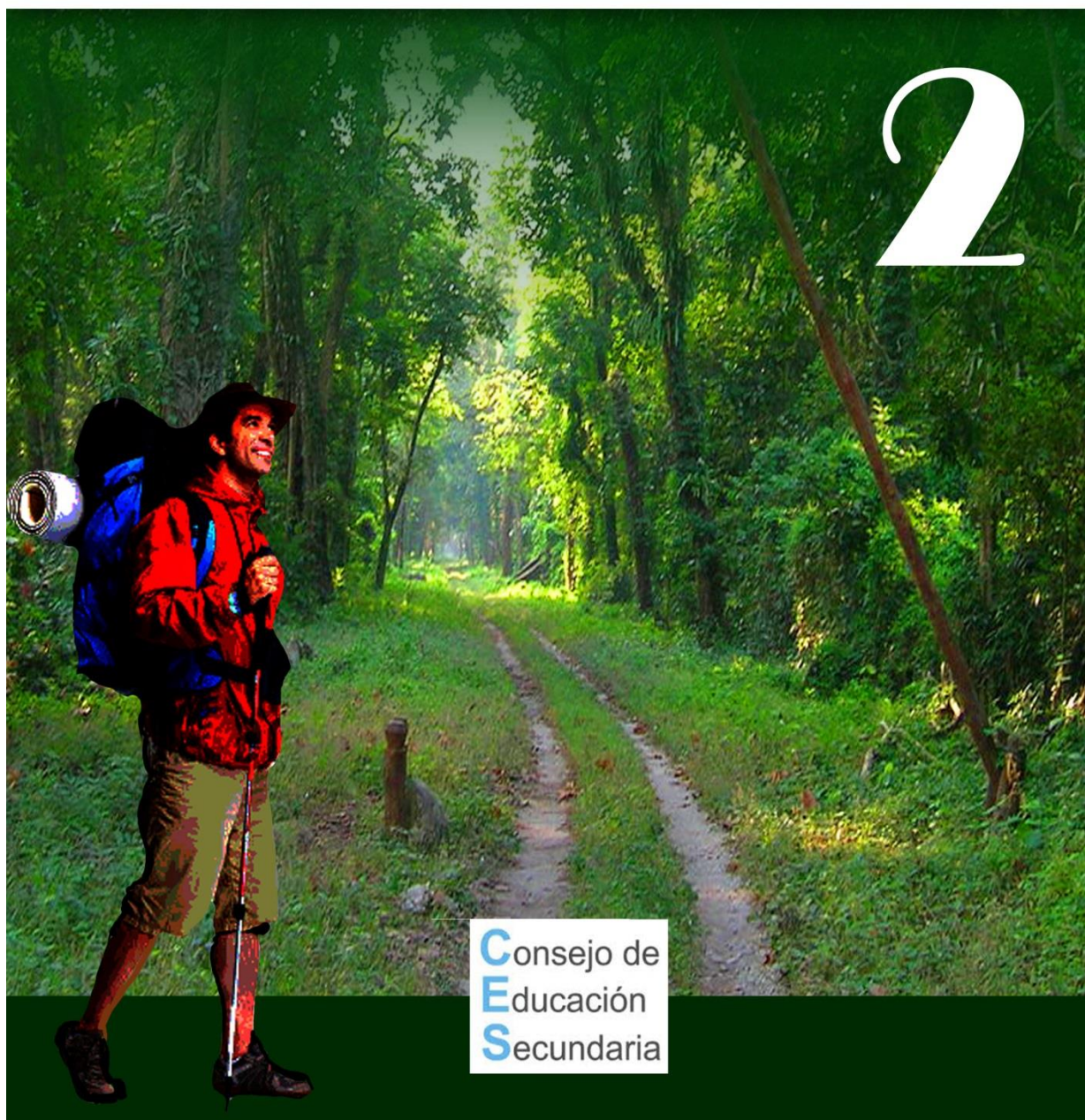


Aldo Daniel Rodríguez Chopitea

# EXPERIENCING ENGLISH

# 2



Consejo de  
Educación  
Secundaria

## About the Author

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Prof. Aldo Rodríguez has been an English teacher since 1998. He has taught for both the public and private sectors and he is a teacher trainer and teacher consultant. He has been a member of National Contests' boards and he also held the position of PAD from Salto for two years.

He has a teaching degree from CERP del Litoral (Salto), and he also holds a Master's degree in Adult and Higher Education from Northern Illinois University. He is currently pursuing his Doctoral degree at the same University.



Since he started his professional activity he has worked with students from different levels, but defines himself as a teacher of adults and as a life-long learner who strongly believes that teachers need to be updated and should always be thirsty for more.

This urge to be updated has been a key aspect of his professional life and this material is an example of that.

## About this Book

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Dear colleagues,

This book is the product of months of creativity, long hours of hard work and cooperative work. It all started as part of a Sabbatical approved by CES on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.

The idea of creating this book came together with the idea of changing the syllabi for Adult education at Nocturnos and Programas Especiales. Joining with Inspección de Ingles del CES, some PADs from around the country and several hard-working teachers who spent time and effort on providing feedback on it in order to improve it. This material is not a finished work, there is always room for changes, so I invite you to send any opinion you have.

After a whole year of work I want to thank CES supervisors Gabriela Zazpe and Mag. Shirley Romano, PADs Henriette Despaux (Canelones), Mariella Marino (Montevideo), Alice Zapata (Rio Negro), Selva Teixeira (Salto), Ximena Tisnes (Flores), Sandra Nuñez (Rivera), Beatriz Sendic (Artigas), Carina Vazquez (Rocha), Mariana Baldenegro (Durazno), Andrea Sorondo (Soriano) and all the teachers from those provinces these PADs supervise for their feedback, support, commitment and hard work. Special thanks to prof. Ximena Tisnes for the invaluable work editing the book.

I hope you enjoy this material and you provide feedback about it. Feel free to contact me in case of doubts, comments or suggestions. You can write to [whoanseeto@hotmail.com](mailto:whoanseeto@hotmail.com)

Have a great school year,

ALDO

February 2014.

## How to Use the Book

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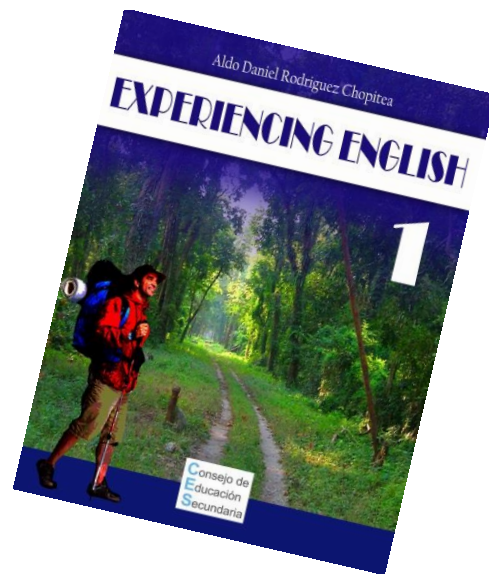
The materials in this book are a compilation of activities created by the author. When you use this material you are not going to use it as they are compiled here. You need to consider your students, the level they are in and the needs they have. For this reason, you need to adapt some of these activities and also include some other information that may be relevant for them and their educational reality and context.



**Who am I?**

**What things do I  
like?**

**My last-year experience  
with English**



This is who I am...

The Second Grade Club				
Picture here	First name	Last name	Age	Occupation
Likes	Dislikes	Can	Can't	Signature

**Complete this membership card with all your information.**

**Find a person you don't know in the class and introduce yourself. Don't forget to share all the information you have here.**

**What do you remember about the other person?**

# Class survey

Questions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Do you work?									
Was your experience with English good?									
Are you older than 30?									
Do you have a big family? (more than 4)									
Do you like.... (you complete the question)?									
Can you count from 1 to 10?									
(one more question that you add in here)									

**Interview 9 of your classmates and ask them these questions.**

**If they answer yes, put a tick in the box . If the answer is no, put a cross in the box .**

**How many students...**

- Answered yes to your questions?
- Answered no to your questions?

**Report to the class.**

Write sentences reporting your results.

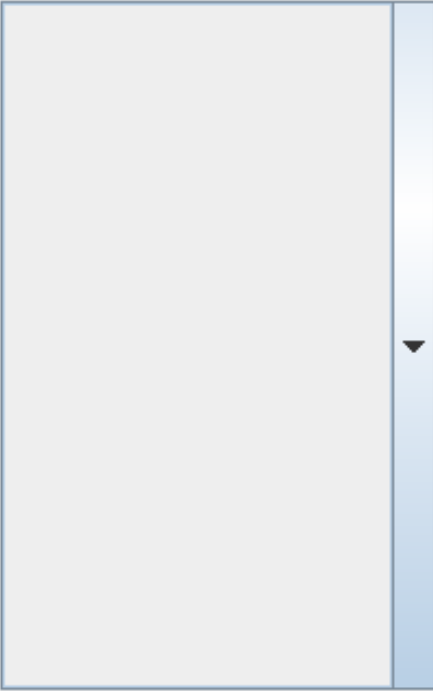
For example: 6 out of 9 students answered yes to my question “Do you work?” 3 out of 9 students answered no to my question “Do you work?”

**What about you?**

For example:

My name is Aldo. I work as a teacher. My experience with English was awesome! I love English. I am 40. I don't have a big family and I can count from 1 to ten. Look! One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten! I did it!

Aldo wants to know more about you. Complete your conversation with him.

The chat:	The people:
<p>Aldo: Hey...my name is Aldo and you?</p> <p>You:</p> <p>Aldo: nice to meet you...I live in Salto. Where do you live?</p> <p>You:</p> <p>Aldo: OK. And is that a big or small city?</p> <p>You:</p> <p>Aldo: Oh, I see...and which school do you go to?</p> <p>You:</p> <p>Aldo: Great! Let's keep in touch!</p>	
<p>What you're saying:</p> <input data-bbox="214 1104 867 1163" type="text"/> <p><input data-bbox="883 1104 1029 1163" type="button" value="Send"/> <input data-bbox="1036 1104 1175 1163" type="button" value="Hate"/> <input data-bbox="1182 1104 1313 1163" type="button" value="Quit"/></p>	

**Tip: Match the following columns and you will see.**

- |                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Where</b> do you live?            | I am 40                         |
| <b>What color</b> do you like?       | 6 out of 9 people answered yes. |
| <b>When</b> is your birthday?        | In Salto                        |
| <b>How old</b> are you?              | Blue                            |
| <b>What</b> is your nationality?     | September 29.                   |
| <b>How many</b> people answered yes? | I'm Uruguayan                   |

(The phrases in **bold** are the ones which look for specific information)



**Aldo invites you to play a game. You have to recognize the right picture.**

The blue Volkswagen car.

The brown shirt

The yellow sweater.

The sky blue motorcycle.

The green coat

The red scarf.

The pink panther

The white rose



**Did you find all the objects? How many more can you describe?**

**Raise your hand and share with the class**



# Students' voices: Today: Rene

Hi, my name is Rene. I am a 60-year old student at Nocturno in Salto. I am a mother, I am a grandmother and as some of you I dropped out school because of my family. I got married and I have 3 beautiful daughters: Sonia, Angelica and Maria. Sonia is 32. She is a single mother and she works at a local supermarket. Angelica is 28. She works as a receptionist at a hotel in Arapey hot springs spa. She is also a university student. She wants to be a nurse. Maria is 27. She is married and she also has a daughter. She works at the Bus Station and shopping mall. I also have a son: Nelson. He is 25, and he is a mechanic. I also have two granddaughters: Celeste and Josefina.. According to Josefina I am the one in the picture: "this is you grandma". I love her.

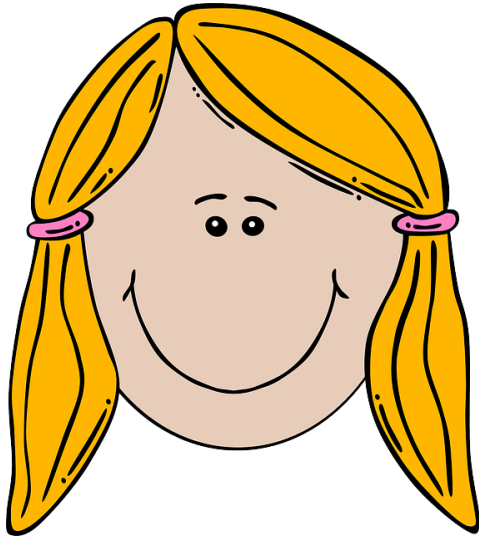
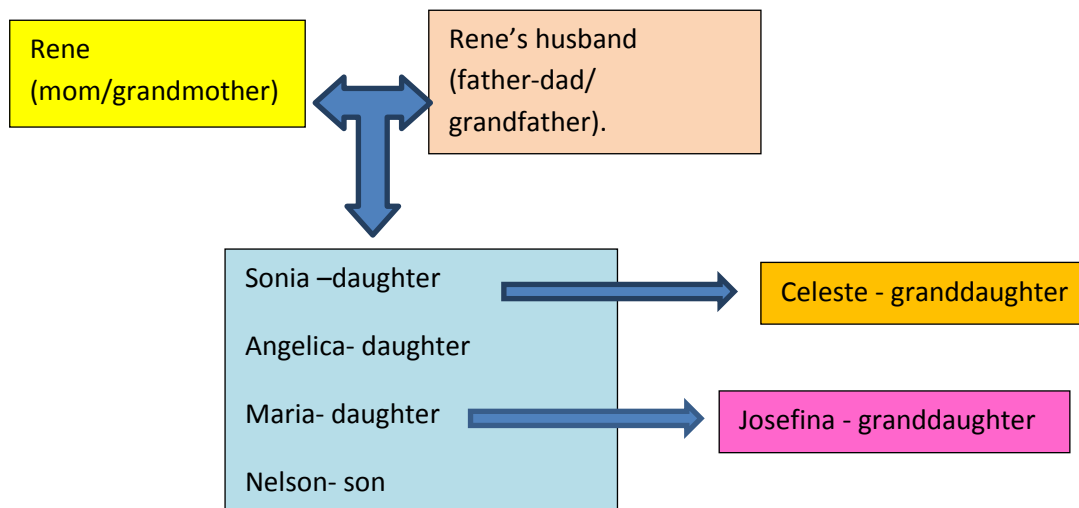


Photo source: pixabay free images.

## Rene is such a fascinating student. Which of these sentences are true about her?

- 1- Rene is a woman who lives in the north of Uruguay.
- 2- She has 4 children.
- 3- She has a granddaughter and a grandson.
- 4- One of her daughters will possibly work in a hospital in the future.
- 5- Maria works with a mechanic.
- 6- Josefina is the author of this picture.

## This is Rene's family



**What about your family? Tell Rene about it. Use Rene's draw to do yours.**



**Just for reflection: About your family:**

What are the names of the people in your family?

What are their occupations? What do they do?

How old are they?

What's the relationship with them? Are his/her father/mother /son/daughter

/brother/sister/uncle/aunt/grandmother/grandfather/ nephew/niece/ cousin?

**What would you say about your family?**

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**Let's play BINGO!**

We are going to use this chart.

1	2	3
4	5	6

Take a pencil and stand up...

**Be Careful!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! You cannot repeat the person!!!**

**And second each time you need to find a person practice the question with the teacher.**

1- Now find a person in the class who has the same number of siblings you have.

Write his/her name in the first square...

For example: Do you have one brother? Etc.

2- Now find a person in the class who has someone in his/her family whose birthday is in the same month of yours.

Write his/her name in the second square...

3- Now find a person in the class who is married or is partnered.

Write his/her name in the third square...

4- Now find a person in the class whose children make drawings like Josefina.

Write his/her name in the fourth square...

5- Now find a person who has someone in his/her family who is in his/her twenties

Write his/her name in the fifth square...

6- Now find a person and talk with him/her about his/her family.

Write his/her name in the sixth square...

***Now the teacher has all the names in a bag. Pick up a name and say it out loud. If you have it cross it out from the chart. When you have 6 crosses say BINGO!!!***

**Rene wants to share information about her relationship with English. Read the text to know what she thinks.**

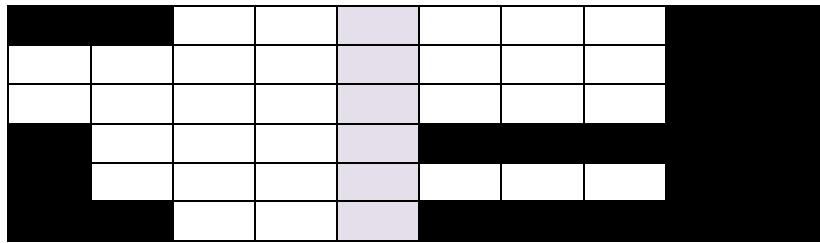
English is not easy for me. But I have a strategy. At night when I am taking care of patients at the local hospital I read, I repeat, I ask myself and I learn. When I learned the parts of the house I put sticking note paper in my house with the names in English and that is very useful because I read the names all the time. Also, I looked up some words in the dictionary and I label the objects. For example, do you know how to say “rallador” in English? OK. I will not tell you but here you have a game. Discover the words and you will discover “rallador”.

What is Rene’s relationship with English like?

Which strategies has she used to face the problems?

Which strategies do you use?

**Rene wants to challenge you: Here is a crossword puzzle she has for you.**



Clues:

- 1- Fifty, sixty, seventy, ...
- 2- The person who works with me...
- 3- Rene’s son, Nelson, is a ...
- 4- When I use the cellphone to write a message I \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- I love to hang out with \_\_\_\_\_ in my free time...
- 6- Nelson can repair my ...

	Challenging	OK	Easy
This activity was...			

# Let's know more about your classmates

**Think and write three sentences about you. One of them must be false. For example:**

My real name is Aldo Daniel

I practice sports every day.

I like eating dessert.

Can you guess which one is false? Probably you are right; the second one is false for me.

Now, write the three about you:

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- \_\_\_\_\_

## **Get in groups of 3**

Share the information in the three sentences with your group members.

They have to guess which sentence is false.

After all the groups complete the assignment one person in each group reports what happened during the activity.

**Today I learned something new about some of my classmates. Write two new things you didn't know about your classmates.**

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Let me introduce you to a good friend of mine. Her name is Anabell. She is an outstanding teacher from El Salvador. Here she is in St. Louis, the USA while attending graduate classes at University

(Photograph source: Anabell Rodriguez)

**Before sharing information with you, Anabell asks you these questions:**

Do you know where my country is?

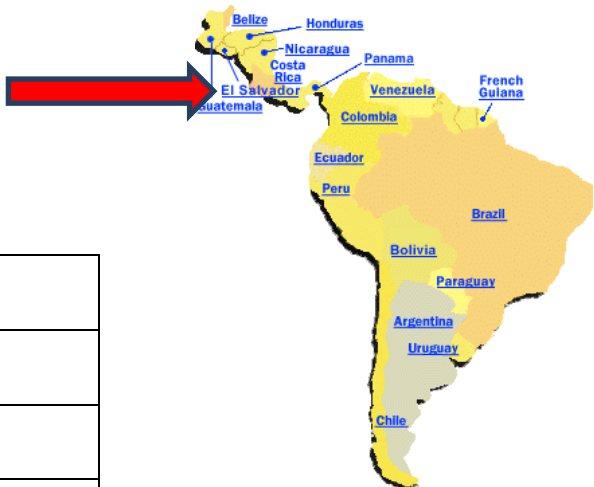
What do you know about it?

Can you give me some information about your country?

BTW I love your country and I would like to visit it one day.

This is one of Anabell’s favorite websites about El Salvador. Read the information you find there and show Anabell how much you learned about her country:  
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/find/el-salvador/>

This is a map of Latin America where you can see El Salvador and Uruguay.



Location	
Landscape	
Agriculture	
Fruits	
Animals	
Flowers	
People	
Typical food	
Entertainment	



**Anabell wants to share some experiences with you. Listen to her and write down:**

Three things she mentions about her personal life. For example her age.

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- \_\_\_\_\_

The teacher will ask you to share with the whole class.

**Listen again and write down information about activities she likes doing:**

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Get in pairs and share with your peer. Do you have the same information? Different?

**Listen for the third time and write down something about her work:**


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**Get in groups of three students. Share all the information about Anabell, what do you know about her? Write a short report.**


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*Thanks Anabell!!!*



# My past experiences



Photos:

Source: Aldo Rodriguez

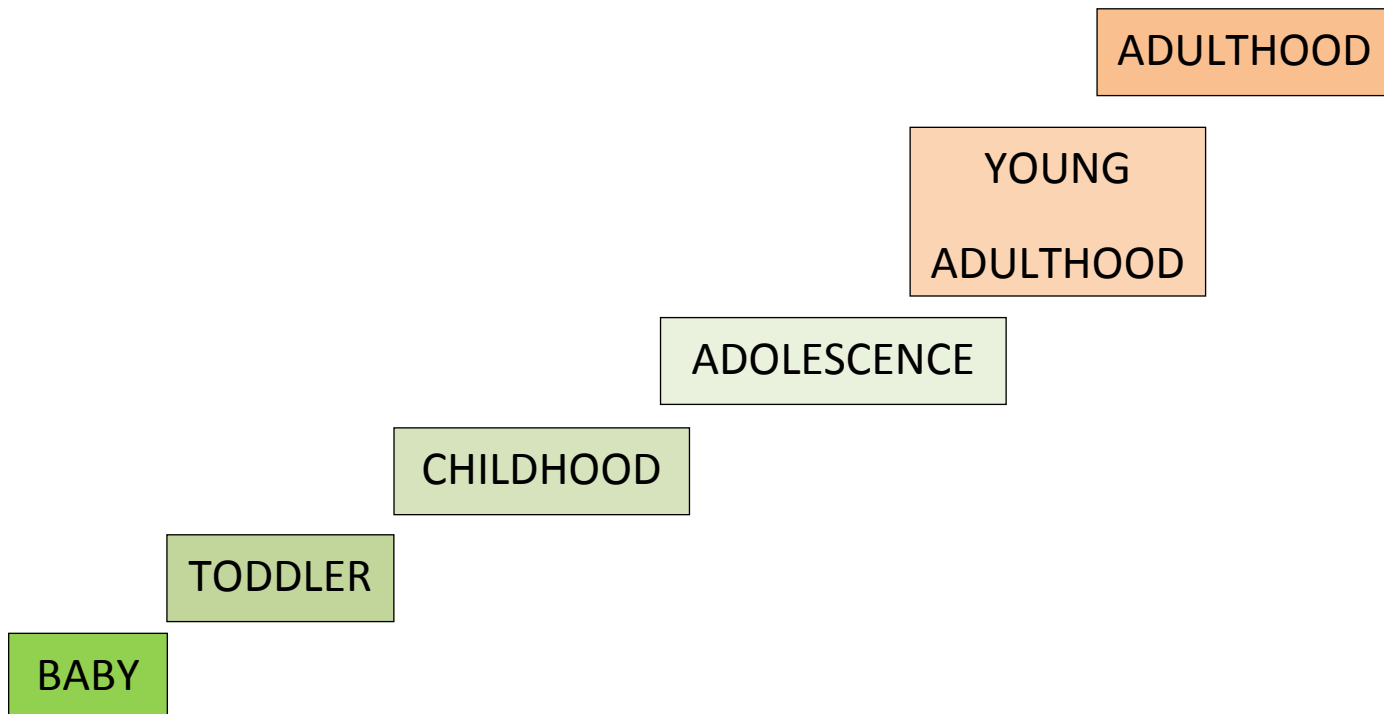
# Look at these activities

- Cry
- Crawl
- Play with my toys
- Play with my friends at the playground.
- Hang out with friends.
- Drive a car
- Ride my bike
- Ride my motorbike.
- Watch cartoons
- Sing children's songs.
- Play hopscotch
- Draw pictures.
- Go to secondary school
- Have children
- Drink alcohol
- Drink sodas/pops
- Walk
- Run
- Jump.

*Tip: hopscotch (rayuela)*

**Which of these activities do you do at present? Which of these activities did you do in the past but you don't do now? Put NOW in the ones you do at present and PAST next to the things you did and you don't do any more.**

Put the activities in the stage of your life that corresponds.



# I'm getting old

“At the moment I am in my forties. When I was 30 I used to run long distances and I didn’t use to get tired. I used to sleep just a few hours and I was OK but now I need to sleep 8 hours to be OK. I remember that I used to practice a lot of sports and I used to play soccer every weekend. Now I am more into watching TV and playing table games like chess.” Jose Perez, 46, San Jose (ROU).

**In this short account, Jose talks about things that he used to do in the past and things he does now. Underline what he did in the part and **highlight** what he does now.**

**Grammar focus:** Look at the sentences you underlined.

What do they have in common?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is used to talk about habits in the past.

**Activity:** go back to the previous page and use that vocabulary to write about 5 things you used to do in the past.

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- \_\_\_\_\_
- 4- \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- \_\_\_\_\_

Go further! Include two more ideas about your habits in the past. You can use your own ideas.

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_

# My vacations...

Hi dear readers,

My name is Aldo, the author of this book. I want to share with you some pictures about my **vacations**. Until 2010 I used to live in Salto in the northwest of Uruguay. Then, in 2010 I moved to DeKalb, a city close to **Chicago** in the United States where I am a student like you.

This year I had the chance to go on holidays to Orlando and I visited The Universal Studios Park. It was amazing. One of the most beautiful places I visited was Harry Potter's **castle**. That was great! Here you can see a picture on your right. There were several rides there and there was even a **roller coaster!!!** I was thrilled!



When I **lived** in Uruguay I used to spend my holidays with family or friends. My family lives in Mercedes, the capital city of Soriano, so I used to spend the summer hanging out with friends and sipping **mate** in our “rambla”. I used to go early in the morning and read a book, walked, or just listened to music. At that time, I used to study at Regional Norte, I wanted to be a lawyer. So most of my summers I used to study and that was a great place to do it.



On the left you will see a picture I took of “Carrasquito” or Guernica’s park in Mercedes, a beautiful place to prepare BBQ, to hang out with friends or just sit and contemplate nature. I used to go there a lot. I have a friend, Marcos, who used to have a **boat** moored in the Rio Negro. (Tip: moored (anclado), BBQ (barbecue-asado)).

**Let’s see if you understood. I have some activities for you to see.**

First, which word in **bold** corresponds to each of these definitions?

- 1- Means of transport used in the river: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- Like a big old house: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- Park attraction, quite scary sometimes: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4- Live in the past: \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- Uruguayan beverage: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6- Holidays/time off: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7- American city: \_\_\_\_\_

Photos:

Source: Aldo Rodriguez



**Second**, I will challenge you with some questions about what I told you.

- 1- Where do I live now?
- 2- Where did I use to live until 2010?
- 3- When did I use to spend time in Mercedes?
- 4- Where did I go this past vacations?
- 5- What did I use to do during my time in Mercedes?

Tip: to ask about past habits “Did X use to...”

**Third and final**, I want to know about one of your holidays or the places you used to visit when you were younger. Tell me what you used to do there, the time of the year you used to go there, and the people you used to go with.

Plan the writing first, I’ll give you some tips. This is the way I prepared mine.

Place you used to go on vacation (Description)	What you used to do there / Activities	People you used to go with	Time of the year	Anything else?
Mercedes Carrasquito Boat?	Study for my exams Hang out with friends Listen to music Walk Sip mate	Alone Hang out with friends	Summer Before 2010	I live in Dekalb now, I used to live in Mercedes

Now you try with your ideas.

Place you used to go on vacation (Description)	What you used to do there / Activities	People you used to go with	Time of the year	Anything else?



Before moving to Salto I took a couple of jobs in Mercedes. My first job was as a gardener. Here is my story.

When I was a gardener I used to work long hours. I worked from 7 in the morning to 2 in the afternoon. I had to take care of the plants, plant new ones and take care of some trees. I will show you some pictures.



Roses I used to plant and take care of. In the garden I created there were fifteen different types of roses. They include red roses, yellow roses, pink roses, white roses, orange roses, very tiny roses and big ones. There was even one that changed its color. It opened as yellow and then with the sun it turned orange. There are times of the year were roses have beautiful flowers. However, it is very interesting that you cannot plant roses during the months which contain a “r” in their name in Spanish. That means: January, February, March, April, September, October, November and December...did you know that?

Another flower I loved was the Crane Flower. This photo shows one of its flowers. It is incredible how they actually look like a bird. As a consequence it is also called Bird of Paradise. Its strong colors make it unique and very nice to have in your garden.



Finally, I also planted some vegetables. In this photo you can see two



different types of vegetables. The tall plants are bell peppers and the small plants are carrots. Bell pepper plants usually produce a lot of peppers that is why I always needed to cut the ones ready to eat.

Carrots and pepper are very delicate because they are easily eaten by ants and other insects.

Photos: Source: Aldo Rodriguez.

Re-read the information I gave you and check what other people are saying about me. Is it true?

**Aldo never worked before being a teacher**

**He used to plant different types of roses and carnations**

**Aldo says that roses are really big flowers**

**Aldo recommended me to plant roses all the year long.**

**He said that Crane flower and Bird of Paradise are the same plant.**

**Aldo said he also planted vegetables and trees at that time.**

**Correct the sentences that are not correct about what I said and thank you!!!**

# Tell me about YOU.

Think first!

Have you ever worked?

Which was your first job?

Where was it?

What did you have to do?

Was your first job the job you have now?

How do you like it?

**Get in pairs and share with one of your classmates your story.**

**What do you remember from your classmate's story?**

Take some notes and then share with the class.

Miguel is another friend of mine. He lives in Minas, the capital city of Lavalleja. He lives there with his family and he works at a local gas station. His life was ordinary until one day a nice smoked-window car parked there. I have to say that Miguel's favorite activity is watching TV. He is a couch potato and he dreams with meeting famous people. To his amazement, Richard Gere was driving that car. He was just speechless. He remembered that he learned English in middle and high school and approached him. He mumbled at first but then he said "how can I help you today sir?" Gere was amazed that this guy was speaking English. Miguel asked him "what are you doing in Uruguay and in Lavalleja". The famous actor told him he was there because there is a famous Buddhist temple in the area. Since then, Gere has been a regular customer at the gas station and Miguel is super happy to see him every now and then.

**After reading about my friend Miguel, let's see how much you understood of his story. Answer these questions by choosing a, b or c.**

Which one of this is true about Miguel?

- a- He lives in Lavalleja, works at a gas station and speaks more than 1 language.
- b- He lives in Lavalleja, does not work and speaks more than 1 language.
- c- He lives in Lavalleja, works at a gas station and speaks only 1 language.

Miguel likes...

- a- Hanging out with friends
- b- Practicing sports.
- c- Watching TV

When Miguel saw Richard Gere he felt...

- a- Ok
- b- Not nervous at all
- c- Super nervous.

Richard Gere was in Uruguay...

- a- Because he has some friends in Lavalleja he wanted to see.
- b- Because of religious purposes.
- c- Because he was filming in Uruguay.

Richard Gere is now...

- a- In the U.S.A.
- b- A regular customer.
- c- In the Buddhist temple.

**IF you were Miguel, which person would you like to be driving the smoked-window car?**



Write down 5 ideas that are important to tell the story about this person you met.

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- \_\_\_\_\_
- 4- \_\_\_\_\_
- 5- \_\_\_\_\_

Preparing a poster about this person I want to meet.

Paste a photo of that person here.

Be creative and add phrases or pictures of films or whatever you want to add to this poster.

Surf the internet and put some information about that person you want to share with your classmates. Don't write too much, just the most important information.

# Class poster fair

Paste all the posters around the classroom walls.

Take your time to read about people you don't know.

Choose the 3 you liked most and complete the following chart:

Tip: If the person is a singer you may want to share a song with the class.

	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3
Name?			
Activity he/she does			
Where he/she lives			
Why interesting?			
Anything else?			

The teacher may ask you to share the information with the whole class.

## **Reflect!**

Which person was the most popular among your classmates?

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Why?

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**Surf the internet and find at least 3 more aspects about that person you didn't know.**

1- \_\_\_\_\_

2- \_\_\_\_\_

3- \_\_\_\_\_

# My experiences with others



**Match the following names with the activities in the pictures. There is more than one possibility.**

- Walking along the promenade.
- Having some mate.
- Going to the cinema.
- Hanging out with friends
- Sitting on a bench and talking with a friend/boyfriend/girlfriend for hours.
- Practicing sports.
- Eating out with friends.
- Playing videogames/Wi.
- Enjoying some fresh air.
- Watching movies.
- Playing basketball
- Meeting with friends
- Enjoying the city.
- Watching television.
- Having a good time with friends.

**Your opinion matters. How do you like these experiences?**



I love it / I like it very much / I like it a lot/

It's my favorite one!



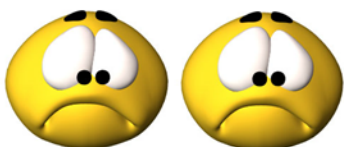
I like it / I enjoy it.



It is ok/ it's fine



I don't like it / I don't enjoy it much.



I don't like it at all / I hate it / I dislike it completely.

**Give your opinion about the activities mentioned in the previous exercise.**

For example:

I don't like playing videogames at all!

I love hanging out with friends.

**Which of those activities do you do on your own?**

**Which of those activities do you do with friends?**

For example: I usually watch movies with my friends Maria and Gabby.

I sometimes go for a walk on my own / alone.



**What I like doing with others by Daniel Rodriguez**

*Hi! My name is Daniel and I am a very sociable person. I love being with other people. I work as a teacher so I am in contact with many students every day. I like the interaction with my students and I always learn new things. With my students we discuss about many interesting topics, we talk about music, we talk about the news and sometimes we watch movies or You Tube clips to discuss different topics.*

*When I am not working I also like being with people. I practice team sports like soccer, basketball and volleyball. Oh! I love practicing sports...and also watching sports on television. I hang out with friends and we watch our favorite soccer team Peñarol every weekend or we play games. We usually have some mate together while we eat some tortas fritas. We are crazy about tortas fritas. We talk about many topics but the most popular is probably soccer.*

**Are these statements true or false?**

- 1- Daniel prefers working on his own.
- 2- In Daniel's classes there is a lot of talking time.
- 3- When he is not teaching, he really enjoys being alone.
- 4- He enjoys sports involving the use of a ball.
- 5- Daniel and his friends really love tortas fritas.



Daniel said he likes games. Help Daniel solve this crossword puzzle.

				M				
				Y				
1				E				
				X				
		2		P				
				E		3		
		4		R				
		5		I				
				E			6	
7				N				
				C				
				E				

Clues:

- 1- I ♥
- 2- Soccer, volleyball and basketball are \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- Football is the English word for \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4- Something that is fantastic, it is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5- The place where you can watch movies on a huge screen is the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6- Daniel is a teacher, you are a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7- In my free time I \_\_\_\_\_ out with friends.

**Go to the end of this unit and find the key and correct whether it is correct or not.**

**Look at this quiz and answer the questions in it.**

Which was your favorite experience?	
Who were you with?	
Where were you?	
Why were you there?	
When was it?	

**This is Matias's favorite experience. Read it carefully.**



Last year I had the opportunity to travel to Montevideo for the first time. Believe it or not, I had never been in that city before though I lived a few kilometers from it. My classmates and I participated in an annual congress of teachers and talked about bullying. The experience itself was fantastic; I met many English teachers and I learnt a lot from the different presentations. Of course, we also did other activities. We visited many places around Montevideo like squares, museums and famous buildings. In addition, we spent a night at CeRP of Atlántida. It

was great!!! There, we ate delicious food like milanesas and mashed potatoes, apples, bananas, soup, and BBQ. We shared experiences with other students. I personally liked this experience and I am going to remember it for the rest of my life.



Photos: source Aldo Rodriguez

**Fill in this spidergram with information from Matias's experience.**



**Marcos is a Spanish guy who lives in the US. He is visiting Uruguay and talking to some English speaking friends about a nice experience.**

**He also wants to share an experience with you. Listen to the recording.**

**What were the things you used to do when you were a child?**

*Mark with CH the things you used to do in your childhood*

*Mark with NW the things you do now.*

- Play with toys.
- Play videogames
- Go to kindergarten
- Play with my siblings.
- Go to the cinema
- Play chess.
- Watch cartoons
- Climb trees
- Ride a motorbike/bike
- Hang out with friends.
- Watch soap operas
- Go walking.
- Attend elementary school
- Attend middle school

**What were the things you used to do when you were a child/ younger?**

*e.g. When I was a child, I used to go to kindergarten.*

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What are the things you do at present?

*e.g. I go walking every day for an hour.*


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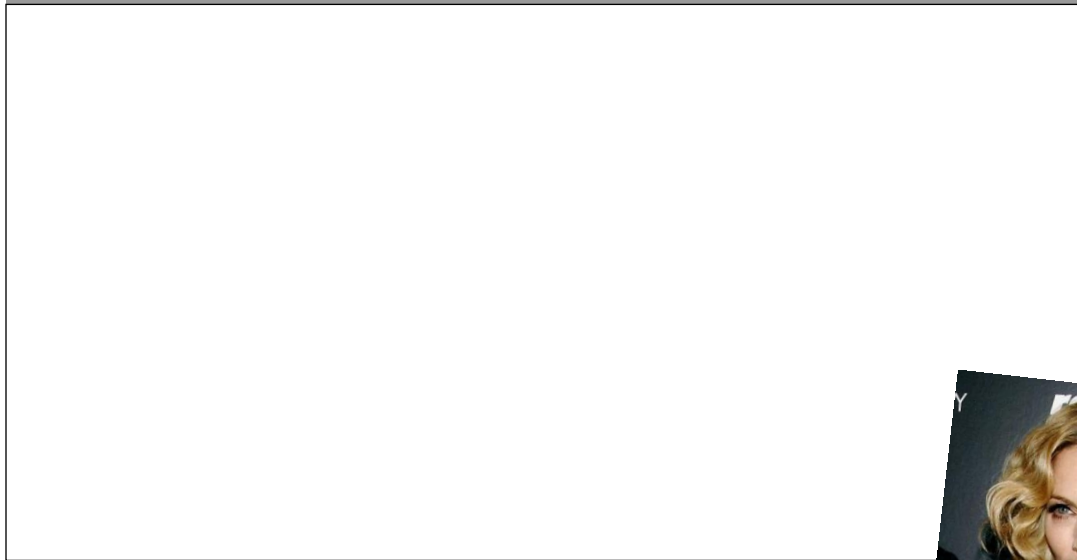
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## Let's imagine!

Given the phrase "This used to be my playground". Think and draw your playground. If you did not have one, create one.



## Read the lyrics of this song called "This used to be my playground" by Madonna

This used to be my playground  
This used to be my childhood dream  
This used to be the place I ran to  
Whenever I was in need of a friend  
Why did it have to end  
And why do they always say

Don't look back, keep your head held high  
Don't ask them why because life is short  
And before you know, you're feeling old  
And your heart is breaking  
Don't hold on to the past  
Well, that's too much to ask

This used to be my playground  
This used to be my childhood dream  
This used to be the place I ran to

Whenever I was in need of a friend  
Why did it have to end  
And why do they always say

No regrets but I wish that you were here with me  
Well, then there's hope yet  
I can see your face in our secret place  
You're not just a memory  
Say goodbye to yesterday  
Those are words I'll never say

This used to be my playground  
This used to be our pride and joy  
This used to be the place we ran to  
That no one in the world could dare destroy

This used to be our playground  
This used to be our childhood dream  
This used to be the place we ran to  
I wish you were standing here with me

This used to be our playground  
This used to be our childhood dream  
This used to be the place we ran to  
The best things in life are always free  
Wishing you were here with me

Source: <http://www.metrolyrics.com/this-used-to-be-my-playground-lyrics-madonna.html>

**In the lyrics Madonna says “This used to be our childhood dream” talking about the playground.**

Use the drawing you made before and describe the place.

Useful vocabulary: There was a.....there were.....

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With the ideas from this lesson and your own ideas describe and tell the things you used to do there.

Useful vocabulary: I used to.....My friend and I used to.....We used to.....

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**What is your best/ favorite experience there?**

*e.g. My favorite experience was when all my friends were there.*

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**What is your worst / least favorite experience there?**

*e.g. My less favorite experience was when it was raining and I couldn't play there.*

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**After you write, work with a classmate and by asking questions try to include more information about your favorite or less favorite experiences.**

**Let's plan your next favorite experience. Let's plan a trip with your class.**

Where?

When?

What to take

How?

What to do there.

**Juan gives you some advice to plan your next trip**

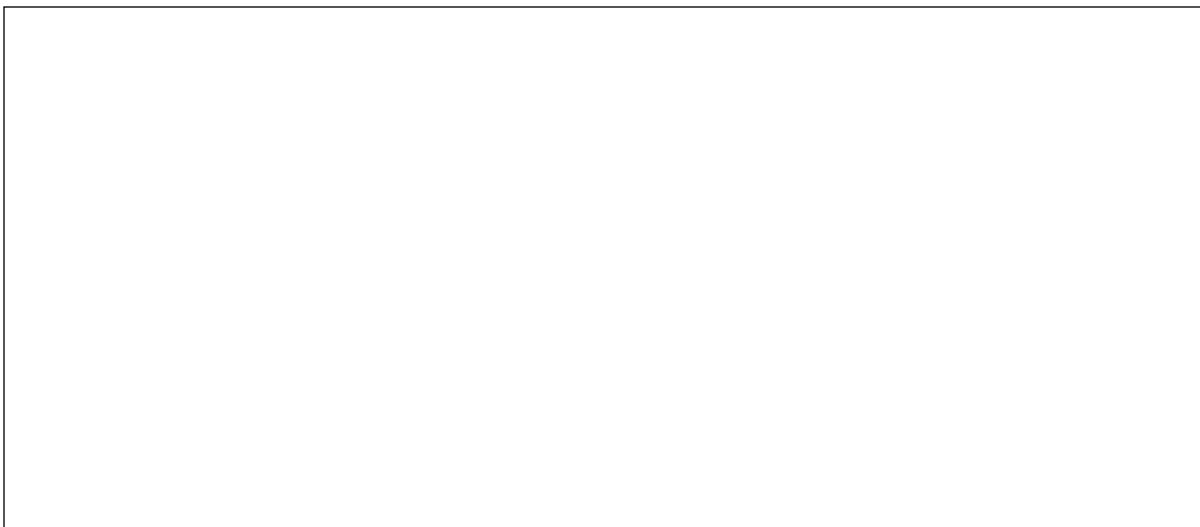
I think you should go to a nice place with a lot of activities to do. You may like outdoor activities but your friends may like indoor activities.

I think you should take some prepared food. Restaurants or food places can be very expensive.

I think you should travel by bus. It may be cheaper than traveling by car.

I think you should prepare a wide range of activities to do there. So you never get bored!!!

**What other pieces of advice can you think of? Work in groups and think together.**

A large empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to write their own advice for planning a trip.

Key for the crossword puzzle.

				M					
				Y					
1	L	O	V	E					
				X					
			2	S	P	O	R	T	S
S	O	C	C	E	R	3			
			4	G	R	E	A	T	
			5	C	I	N	E	M	A
S	T	U	D	E	N	T	6		
		7	H	A	N	G			
				C					
				E					



# My best experiences and memories

## What is a memory?

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mem·o·ry

/ˈmem(ə)rē/ ◀▶

*noun*

1. the faculty by which the mind stores and remembers information.  
"I've a great **memory** for faces"
2. something remembered from the past; a recollection.  
"one of my earliest **memories** is of sitting on his knee"  
*synonyms: recollection, remembrance, reminiscence; More*



## Some of my memories from the past...

*One of my most vivid memories comes from the times when I was a child. I remember that we used to take holidays with the whole family. We had an old van and the whole family hit the road on vacation. We used to go to Paysandú, to the Argentinian border in front of Paysandú, to Dayman hot springs and sometimes we traveled to Colonia. There were very funny moments because the old van broke several times and we had to stay on the road, wait for a mechanic to come and repair it and we finally continued traveling. The last trip we made was when I was 12. Then, we sold the old van and we did not have more vacation together.*



**Read the text about the author's memory and answer the following questions by choosing a, b or c.**

His memory is associated...

- a- To his past                      b- to his present                      c- to his future

The family used to....

- a- Celebrate together              b- go shopping together              c- travel together.

Their car was...

- a- Old                                  b- new                                  c- modern.

The author is now 30 years old. Their last trip together was....

- a- Fifteen years ago              b- thirteen years ago              c- eighteen years ago.

**Think of one of your memories: Would you like to share it with the class? Thanks!!!**

**Go back to the text and find within the underlined words:**

The word travel in the past: \_\_\_\_\_

A phrase that indicates habit in the past: \_\_\_\_\_

A synonym of travel in the past: \_\_\_\_\_

Story we remember from the past: \_\_\_\_\_ (plural)

A phrase that refers to a moment in my life: \_\_\_\_\_

**With the words from the previous exercise complete this other memory written by the author:**

Another of my favorite \_\_\_\_\_ is when I was a member of the theatre company in Mercedes, Soriano. The company's name was "Enrique Guarnero". I was one of its actors. We \_\_\_\_\_ perform our plays every weekend and we



had a pretty big audience. We \_\_\_\_\_ on some occasions to perform our plays in other places that were different from Mercedes. One of those trips was when we \_\_\_\_\_ to Fray Bentos. It was a huge success; people loved our representation of "Don Veridico se la cuenta". With no doubt this is one of the

\_\_\_\_\_ I treasure from that time. \_\_\_\_\_ I loved acting, then, I became an English teacher.

M

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M

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Think of a memory and complete the following bubbles

When I was a child...

\_\_\_\_\_

Last year

\_\_\_\_\_

Recently

\_\_\_\_\_

**Choose one of the memories you wrote in the circles and think of the following information**

Place?	
People with you?	
Situation?	
I like it because...	
Something else you want to add...	

Work in pairs:

- Work with the person next to you.
- Use the information from the table and tell him/her about your memory.
- Then, listen to your classmate's memory. What did he/she say? Fill in the table.

Place?	
People with you?	
Situation?	
I like it because...	
Something else you want to add...	

# Which of these remind you of your CHILDHOOD?



Which is a music device?

Which is a cartoon?

Which is a game?

Do you know the names of these items? Go to the next page to find out.



# Tom and Jerry

Television Series

Tom and Jerry is a series of theatrical animated cartoon films created by William Hanna and Joseph Barbera for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, centering on a rivalry between a cat and a mouse whose chases include slapstick comedy. [Wikipedia](#)

**First episode:** February 10, 1940

**Final episode:** September 27, 2005

**Network:** CBS

**Characters:** Mammy Two Shoes, Spike

**Program creators:** Joseph Barbera, William Hanna

## Cast



Mel Blanc



June Foray



Daws Butler  
Spike



Lillian Randolph  
Mammy Two Shoes



Dick Beals

**Did  
You  
know?**

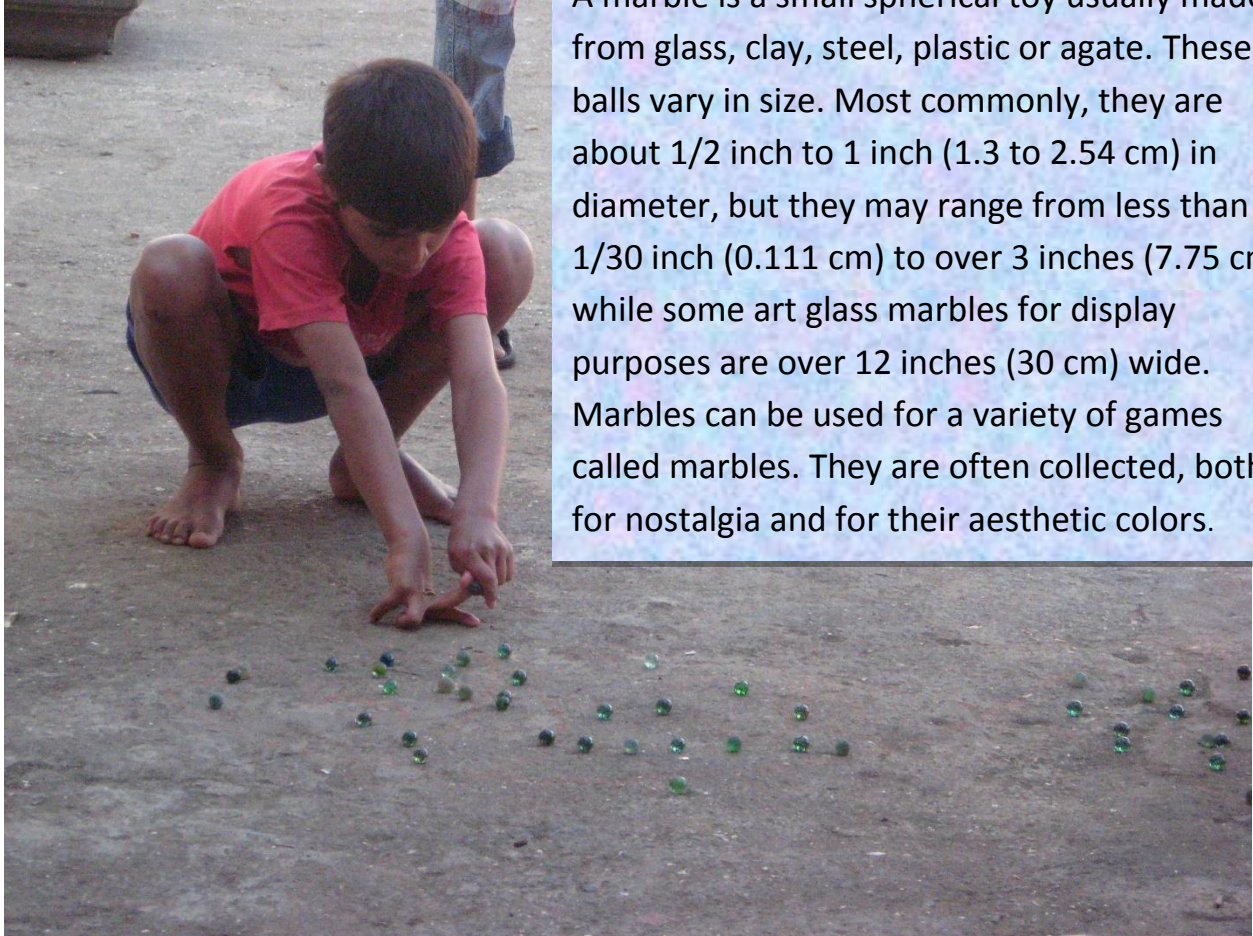
Add three more ideas about this cartoon:

For example: This cartoon was world-wide famous.

- 1- \_\_\_\_\_
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_
- 3- \_\_\_\_\_

Source: Wikipedia.





A marble is a small spherical toy usually made from glass, clay, steel, plastic or agate. These balls vary in size. Most commonly, they are about 1/2 inch to 1 inch (1.3 to 2.54 cm) in diameter, but they may range from less than 1/30 inch (0.111 cm) to over 3 inches (7.75 cm), while some art glass marbles for display purposes are over 12 inches (30 cm) wide. Marbles can be used for a variety of games called marbles. They are often collected, both for nostalgia and for their aesthetic colors.

Did you play marbles when you were a child?

Who did you play with?

Did you use to win?

If you didn't play marbles, what game did you use to play?

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**Search the web and find information about it.**

**Share it with your classmates and teacher.**





# Transistor Radios

## So What Was the Transistor Good For?

Transistors may have been useful to the phone company and to a handful of scientists building computers, but that wasn't enough to build an industry. Companies were eagerly buying transistor licenses from Bell, but if they were going to succeed, they had to come up with sales. They had to catch the attention of the public. That happened with the hand-held radio.

The first transistor radio was a joint project between the Regency Division of Industrial Development Engineering Associates and Texas Instruments. TI knew that it needed a fun product to catch the nation's attention. They thought a radio was just the thing to make a splash. TI built the transistors; Regency built the radio. On October 18, 1954, the Regency TR1 was put on the market. It was a scant five inches high and used four germanium transistors.

If you cannot read it or want to know more, go to:

<http://www.pbs.org/transistor/background1/events/tradio.html>

Was there a transistor radio at home?

Did any member of your family have one?

What kind of music did you/he/she use to listen in it?

Did you have your own radio?

Did you have a more modern radio?

Where do you listen to music now? Do you use your telephone? An Mp3 or mp4? A more modern device? An IPOD? Your computer?

**Share with the class and with the teacher.**



# More memories...




What do you remember about the tale? Write 2 or 3 ideas.

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Enjoy the tale in the following Youtube video and check if your ideas were right. Follow this link:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CkCpx3CE2Q>


Add two more ideas to the ones you stated before:

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Work in groups: Can you think of a different ending?



Another famous icon from the past is the song “Imagine” by John Lennon.

**What do you know about him?**

*Below you have three links to different websites with information about him. Read about this phenomenal singer and complete the chart below.*

<http://www.johnlennon.com/>

<http://www.last.fm/music/John+Lennon>

<http://www.thebiographychannel.co.uk/biographies/john-lennon.html>

10 important facts about John Lennon	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	



Emmanuel Kelly is a great fan of John Lennon. He does not have very good memories about his childhood but he had strength and commitment to continue.

Listen to his story in this video. Watch until minute 3:01 and complete this chart. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dfc0EYktwI>

Age:	Country:	Family:

Listen to the song now and what the judges say about him and choose a, b, or c.

The first judge says Emmanuel's performance was...

- a- Great
- b- Magnificent
- c- Outstanding.

The second judge says Emmanuel's performance was...

- a- With a lot of confidence.
- b- With a lot of courage
- c- With a lot of fun.

The third judge says Emmanuel....

- a- Is an ordinary singer
- b- Is a great singer
- c- Is a beautiful singer

How many judges say yes?

- a- All of them
- b- Some of them.
- c- None of them.

Another version of the song was done as a form of cartoon by Pablo Stanley Art. Enjoy it.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04FjzBuxdO8>

## For reflection:

What do you think about the two versions of the song? What do they tell you? How can you connect this with your life and with your memories?

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