

FINDING A JOB

HANDSHAKES



INSTRUCTION SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS:

This can be a fun, five-minute way to break up a lesson while breaking down some surprising cultural barriers. Since many Canadians feel handshakes are a very important element in making a good impression, it is worth practising them in the classroom. A firm handshake may be considered appropriate for a business situation in Canada, but is considered inappropriate for some unfamiliar with Canadian culture. Students may grasp too firmly (the arm wrestler), too lightly (the dead fish), too long (the politician), or not at all. Discuss what is appropriate in students' 1st countries vs. Canada, then walk around the classroom, greeting one another with a simple handshake.

REQUIRED STRUCTURES: formulaic greetings

REQUIRED VOCABULARY: *firm, brief, firm/tight, loose/limp*

GROUP SIZE: one on one with the whole class

HANDOUTS: none

OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED: none

RELATED GRAMMAR: ("too" vs. "very")

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:

Discuss other non-verbal gestures (proxemics), i.e. eye contact, personal space, etc.