

50 natural English Tips

4. "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"



natural English talking about your background

Originally /ə'ridʒɪnəli:/ I'm from ...
 I was (born and) brought up in ...
 I come from a (sporty/ musical) family.
 My proudest /'praʊdɪst/ moment was ... -ing
 I've always dreamt /dremt/ of -ing/ wanted to + verb



natural English describing your language ability

I'm fluent in Polish.
 I speak Spanish reasonably well.
 I can get by in Portuguese.
 I speak French, but it's a bit rusty /'rʌstɪ/.
 I know a few words of Japanese.
 I wish I could speak Italian.



natural English (do something) together

/tə'geðə/

My sister and I live **together**. (= in the same house)
 My brother and father work **together**. (= do the same job OR work in the same place)
 Can we have lunch **together** on Saturday? (= you and me)



natural English like, such as, and that sort of thing

I like music **such as** opera, choral music, and classical music.
 I really love modern music **like** © house, rap, reggae, and hip hop.

After one or two examples, we can use an expression meaning 'et cetera'.

I'm fond of opera, **and that sort of thing** ©
 I like jazz, rock, **and that sort of thing**



natural English showing a lot of interest

- a Wow! /wao/
- b Really?
- c (That's) interesting! /'ɪntrəstɪŋ/
- d (That's) fantastic! /fæn'tæstɪk/



4. "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"



What's the context?

Look through the *natural English* boxes above. Find *natural English* phrases that you could use in each of the following contexts:

- at a job interview
- at a party
- on holiday
- at work
- at school

Example: at a job interview – **My proudest moment was...**



Study the *natural English* phrases

What's wrong with these natural English phrases? Correct the grammar error in each sentence.

Example: ~~My father and brother together work.~~
My father and brother work together.

- I love music from the 60's like as The Beatles.
- That's really?
- I've always dreamt of write a book.
- I know a few words in German.
- I'm coming from a big family.
- I'm fluent at Korean.
- I like skiing, snowboarding, and that sort.
- I've always wanted run my own company.
- Can we have together lunch some time?
- I was brought up and born in India.
- I can get by on Spanish.
- My proudest moment was won a writing competition at school.
- I speak Japanese, but it's a bit rusting.
- I wish I can speak Turkish.



4. "GETTING TO KNOW YOU"



Activate the *natural English* phrases

Write 10 sentences about yourself, some true, some not true. Try to use different *natural English* phrases from each of the first four *natural English* boxes in this email.

Write about your background, your family, your language ability and your likes and dislikes.

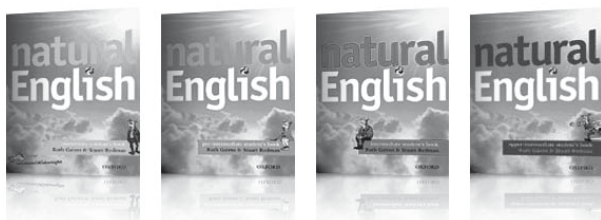
Example

I come from a musical family. (False – my family isn't really musical)

I speak French reasonably well. (True – my French is good)

Work with a partner. Read out your sentences to each other. Can your partner tell which sentences are true and false?

Try to show interest in what your partner tells you, using the *natural English* phrases in box 5 (showing a lot of interest).



These tips are brought to you by *natural English*, _____
the course where students use English naturally. _____