

Interview a Character

FOREIGN LANGUAGE



Overview

Students create a mock interview with a character (historical figure, book character, or celebrity) conducted entirely in the target language, practicing question formation and conversational skills.

Steps for Teachers

1. Review question words and interview vocabulary in target language
2. Students choose a character they can research for authentic answers
3. Students write 5-8 interview questions in the target language
4. Students research and write responses the character might give
5. Students create interviewer and interviewee characters in Puppets Pals
6. Students record the interview, playing both roles
7. Class watches and discusses new vocabulary learned

Example

A French student interviews Marie Curie. Interviewer: 'Bonjour, Madame Curie! Comment avez-vous découvert le radium?' Marie Curie character: 'Bonjour! J'ai travaillé très dur dans mon laboratoire pendant des années. Mon mari Pierre et moi avons fait des expériences avec des minerais. C'était difficile mais passionnant!' Interviewer: 'Qu'est-ce que vous aimez faire quand vous ne travaillez pas?' Marie: 'J'aime lire et passer du temps avec mes filles.'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Question Formation	Questions are grammatically correct and varied	Most questions are correct with minor errors	Frequent errors in question formation
Conversational Flow	Natural back-and-forth dialogue	Dialogue flows adequately	Stilted or unnatural conversation
Character Accuracy	Responses are historically/factually appropriate	Generally accurate character portrayal	Responses don't fit the character
Pronunciation & Fluency	Clear pronunciation with good flow	Understandable with some hesitation	Pronunciation interferes with comprehension