

Go for it! B1 Have we met before?

Use Unit 1, after classroom activity 4	Activity whole class; mingling
Duration 25–30 mins.	Focus Asking questions in present simple, past simple, present perfect; <i>Nice to see you again!</i>

Preparation

Photocopy the worksheet, cut up the cards and shuffle them. If you have a large class, divide it into groups of eight students and make one photocopy for each group. (If you have less than eight students in your class or per group, some students can receive more than one card – but make sure there is a matching partner for each student.)

Procedure

1. Explain the task: students are on a cruise ship somewhere in the Caribbean. At a cocktail party, they see some other guests who seem familiar to them and their objective is to ask and answer questions until they discover if and where they've met these people before. You will give them role cards which have all the necessary information about their new identities and personal histories.
2. Elicit the language students can use to complete the task, for example: *Excuse me, have we met before, you look so familiar!; Have you ever been to ...?; Yes, I have. / No, I've never been there. / I was there in ...; Have you ever worked ...? / When did you ...? / Are you married?; What do you do?; Nice to see you again!* Write some of the phrases on the board (or refer to the functional language in Unit 1). Make sure students have understood your instructions.
3. Before you hand out the cards, make it clear that students should not let other students read their cards. Then hand out the cards, one for each student. They can choose either the masculine or the feminine name on the card. Allow students some time to read their roles and answer any questions they might have.
4. Ask students to stand up, mingle and talk to their classmates to find out whom they have met before, and where.
5. During the activity, monitor and listen carefully. You may want to note down common errors. Assist when necessary.
6. Compare solutions in plenary. If necessary, include a follow-up error correction phase.

Key

Mario / Maria Gonzalez and Paul / Pauline Rutherford met at the University of Hawaii.

Duncan / Debby Lurraby and Jonathan / Joan Smith met at Universal Studios in Los Angeles.

Christina / Christian Jacobs and Robert / Roberta Hunt met at a café in Sydney.

Petros / Petroula Stamatopoulos and Jason Lee / Donna Chen met in Athens, Greece.

**Mario / Maria Gonzalez**

You were born in Spain in 1972 but have lived in New York City most of your life. Your first job was in 1985 when you worked as an assistant for the law firm Legal and Lethal but you soon found out that the job was not for you. In 2000 you decided to study applied linguistics at the University of Hawaii and now you specialise in teaching children with learning difficulties. You are single.

**Duncan / Debby Lurraby**

You were born in 1982. You almost died in a car accident in 2000 and while in rehabilitation, you met your wife / husband. You got married and moved to Los Angeles, where you pursued a career as an actor. You went to a casting for the film "King of the Kong" but you didn't get the role. You got to know a lot of famous people, however, and you are still in contact with some of them. You have a son and a daughter who are now studying at the University of California in Los Angeles.

Christina / Christian Jacobs

You were born in North Africa in 1956 but you moved to Santiago de Chile with your parents in 1970. You studied criminal law and moved to America. You worked as a lawyer at many law firms such as Legal and Lethal in New York City. You didn't like your job very much; however you met nice people there. You've lived with your family in Sydney, Australia, since 1983 and you have your own law firm.

Petros / Petroula Stamatopoulos

You were born in Athens, Greece, in 1972 and you still live there. You are a private detective and you work as a freelancer, mainly for people who want to know if their partners are cheating on them. You think your job is very interesting, and you make good money. Recently, your job brought you to Sydney, where you followed a man who was cheating on his wife and was on holiday there. He stayed at a hotel opposite a café close to the opera and you spent a lot of time drinking coffee there.

Paul / Pauline Rutherford

You were born in Hawaii and have spent most of your life there. You are very rich. You were a professional windsurfer but you had a serious accident in 1997 and gave up surfing. Then you decided to change your way of life and see how the "simple, normal people" live so you worked as a cleaner at the University of Hawaii. You are now married and have a son.

Jonathan / Joan Smith

You were born in San Francisco and you worked as a cameraperson at Universal Studios in L.A. for a long time. Then you started your career as a movie director. In fact, you directed the movie "The Son of Mambo", the second part of the very successful movie "Mambo". In 2000 you played a small part in the movie "The King of Kong". You played one of the king's men; you died in the first five minutes, unfortunately. You are single.

Robert / Roberta Hunt

You were born in Sydney, Australia, and lived there for about 30 years. You moved to L.A. about ten years ago. You left Sydney because you got divorced and you needed to get away from your past life and make a brand-new start. You got a lot of money from the divorce, because you had a very good lawyer who owned his / her own law firm. You think the name was Jacob or something like that. You enjoy your life now with your new partner and you are expecting a child.

Jason Lee / Donna Chen

You were born in Singapore in 1960. You moved to Athens, Greece, in 1985 because your wife / husband is Greek. You have a lot of money so you never needed to work. A few months ago, you suspected that your wife / husband was cheating on you and you hired a detective to see whether it was true. And yes, it was ... unfortunately. Devastated by the news, you moved to the island of Lesbos, where you have an olive garden. You live a simple, quiet life.