

Southampton Business School Peer Learning: Icebreakers

3 Truths and 1 Lie

Give everyone a couple of minutes to prepare 4 statements about themselves (3 are true and 1 is a lie). Students take turns to introduce themselves and the rest vote on what is the lie. You can join in and go first as an example.

Human Bingo (10-15 minutes depending on group size)

Print a 'Bingo Card' for each student. Students move around the room collecting signatures of people who meet each criteria. This activity works better with large groups (e.g. 15-20). See below for an example and you can change the categories if you wish!

Picture Cards

This is a good, quick icebreaker for getting students into random groups. This helps people to work with students outside of their immediate friendship group to make new friends and improve the group dynamic. Allocate cards randomly to students and then give them a few minutes to find the group with matching cards. Tip: try and give out an equal number of cards for each group. See below for a set of cards that you can print.

Would You Rather?

Would You Rather? is a good conversation starter to get people talking to the whole group. You can Google "Would You Rather?" to find suitable questions (for example: Would You Rather... wrestle a shark or a lion?). Find enough for every student and ask students to pick a question, introduce themselves to the group and then answer the question. Picking silly questions (obviously being careful not to ask questions that could offend!) will mean that everyone will have fun and listen.

Interview

In pairs or three, students find out 3 things about each other and then introduce each other to the whole group. Many people find it easier to introduce somebody else than themselves to a bigger group!

My Name Is...

Ask the group to think of an adjective that describes them and begins with the same letter as their name (e.g. Positive Petra or Daredevil Dave). Everyone introduces themselves with their adjective, you can write these down and use them to direct questions later in the session (e.g. Can you explain what a quotation is Daredevil Dave?). This will add a bit of humour to the session and help you to remember names!

Three Things in Common

In pairs, find out three things that you have in common with the other person that you don't already know. Introduce each other to the whole group and the main thing you have in common.

I've done something you haven't done

Each person in the group introduces themselves and describes something they have done that they think no one else in the class has done. If someone else has also done it, the student must state something else until he/she finds something that no one else has done.

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Went out in Southampton last night	Lives in Halls of Residence	Loves Marmite	Has a full driving license	Took a gap year to travel
Hates Marmite	Has been snowboarding or skiing	Is good at cooking pancakes	Has a part-time job	Has joined a student club/society
Likes to drink Snakebite	Has lived outside of the UK	Cycles to uni	Doesn't have facebook	Owens a gym membership
Has a messy housemate	Has won an award	Has been to the USA	Doesn't like drinking Tea	Has been swimming in the uni pool

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