Lesson 2
How can we learn from others?

#MyVoiceMySchool
Learning objectives

You will be able to:

1. Use open, closed and follow-up questions in an interview.
2. Prepare effectively for an international interview.
3. Apply interview skills to learn from others.
Next week, you will have your first Skype call with your partner school.
Skype call themes

1. Hobbies and pastimes
2. Home and family
3. School and education
Skype call format

3 representatives per class in front of laptop

Rest of class contribute questions and views in this preparatory lesson

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Our partner school

SAMI’S STORY
IRBID, JORDAN

MYRN’S STORY
HACKNEY, LONDON

MILLIE’S STORY
EAST DOCCWICH, LONDON

MOHAMAD’S STORY
BEIRUT, LEBANON

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A **closed question** can be answered with a simple ‘yes’ or ‘no’, or a specific piece of information.

E.g. *Do you like school?*

An **open question** gives the person replying the opportunity to say anything they think is appropriate.

E.g. *What do you like about school?*
Open or closed?

Would you go to school if you didn’t have to?
Open or closed?

What do you think makes your school good?
Open or closed?

Why is education important?
Open or closed?

What subjects do you study?
Open or closed?

Does your education prepare you for a career?
How does education prepare you for a career?
Open or closed?

How would you improve your school?
## Open or closed - summary

### Open questions
- Longer, more personal answers
- Sometimes more difficult to answer
- Often start with Why? How? or Tell me about...

### Closed questions
- Simple and short answers
- Easy to answer
- Good for beginning of interviews

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Empowering questions put the interviewee in a pretend position of power. They allow for bigger ideas. Instead of asking ‘How would you improve your school?’ How about? If you were head teacher for the day, what would you change? Or In an ideal world, what kind of education would you give every child?
Emotive questions reveal more about what a person thinks and how they feel. They are often more personal.

Why is education important?
Or
Why is education important to you?
Or
Why do you care about education?
The best interviews are more like a **conversation** rather than a **series of questions and answers**.

This means that you will need to **listen to the answers** given and consider a follow-up question, rather than just going to the **next question on your list**.
Practice interview

3 groups

1. Hobbies and pastimes
2. Home and family
3. School and education
1. Divide each group into two teams.

2. Each team develops 5 questions around their group topic (5 minutes).

3. Each team takes turns to interview the others in their group (7 minutes each).

4. After each interview use the Peer Assessment sheet to evaluate the skills learned earlier in the lesson (3 minutes each).
Remember

1. Use a range of open and closed questions.

2. Make your questions empowering and emotive.

3. Use follow-up questions.
Deciding your final questions

Each group:

1. Decide your final 5 questions for the Skype call next lesson.

2. Share these with the rest of the class as part of a group discussion.
What guidelines will make the Skype conversations go well?