

Charla 1 Guide

The first Charla will be held Monday, October 1 (11:30-12:30; 2:00-3:00), Tuesday, October 2 (10:00-12:00), and Wednesday, October 3 (11:30-12:30; 2:00-3:00). If this time does not work for you and your partner, we can schedule an alternate time.

Topic: You and your partner are first-year college roommates who are meeting for the first time. You want to find out as much as possible about your new roommate. Some information you would like to know may include but is not limited to the following:

- name
- place of origin
- nationality
- age
- parents' names and occupations
- classes/activities you have and on what days
- items you have for the dorm room and where you are going to put them
- likes and dislikes (verb "gustar")
- obligations as a student ("tener + que + infinitive)
- plans for the weekend (ir + a + infinitive)
- daily activities and when/where you do them (present indicative – conjugating verbs in the present tense)

If you would like to invent alternate identities, you are free to do so. Get creative!

The Charla should be a laidback, naturally-flowing conversation between you and your partner. You are not to drill your partner with questions and vice versa. If your partner answers one of your questions and you would like to know more about that topic, feel free to expand on it. Do not feel that you have to immediately go on to another topic. For example, if you ask "¿Tienes hermanos?", you could expand further by asking the names, ages, occupations, likes/dislikes of your partner's siblings. The Charla should not appear memorized or rehearsed. Also remember to **answer using complete sentences**, that is, a subject + verb + nouns + adjectives, **not just "sí" or "no"**.

Each Charla should last approximately 3-4 minutes, but you should speak and communicate as much as possible. **Show me what you know!!** Each person will be graded on an individual basis. Your partner's performance will not affect your grade.

You will be graded on the following criteria:

- proper use of grammar and vocabulary
- ease and fluency of communication (avoiding extended pauses or moments of silence)
- ability to be understood (pronunciation; speaking clearly and in a loud voice)
- comprehension (making sure you understand your partner's questions and can answer appropriately)