Ice Breakers

**The Question Ball**

Get a ball and write questions on it:

* What is the weirdest thing you’ve done?
* What’s your favorite hobby?
* What’s your major of study?
* What’s the strangest thing you’ve ever eaten?
* What’s the farthest from Yucaipa you’ve ever traveled?
* What’s your favorite movie?
* Favorite class from high school and why?
* The thing you’re looking forward to most about college?
* What are you afraid of about college?
* What’s your biggest phobia?

Instruct the students to choose a question the next person will answer and throw the ball to the person they want to answer the question. Continue until all students have answered at least one question.

**Paper Fight**

Have everyone take out a piece of paper and write the following on it:

* What’s your name?
* What is the weirdest thing you’ve done?
* What’s your favorite hobby?
* What’s your major of study?
* What’s the strangest thing you’ve ever eaten?
* What’s the farthest from Yucaipa you’ve ever traveled?
* What’s your favorite movie?
* Favorite class from high school and why?
* The thing you’re looking forward to most about college?
* What are you afraid of about college?
* What’s your biggest phobia?

Crumble paper into a ball and on your cue, have everyone throw the paper at other people. Do this three times. Then they take the paper and look for the owner of the paper they have in their hand. They meet them, and then the class goes around the room and each person introduces their person to the class and includes 2 things from the list.

**Autograph Bingo**

Using the Bingo sheets provided, have everyone try to get a bingo by mulling about and getting signatures. Each person can only autograph one square for another student. This should last for about 20 minutes.

**2 Truths and a Lie**

## Have everyone take out a sheet of paper. On that sheet of paper, have them list three things about themselves that they think are interesting. Two of them will be true, and one of them will be a lie. Make sure that everyone, even you, participates. Hint—the more interesting and provocative the facts, the better time everyone will have, and the more the class will get to know each other. So don’t share that you traveled to Pittsburgh once—instead, share that you’ve been bungee-jumping or that you had a near-death experience with a bamboo plant, etc. Encourage creativity with your students.

After everyone has written three things on their paper, you have a few options for what to do next:

1. For about ten minutes, everyone will walk around and introduce themselves to everyone in the class. The goal is to talk to everyone in the class and share your three “facts” about yourself without revealing which one is a lie. After everyone has done this, work your way through each person in the class and have them repeat their three facts. Then have everyone vote (verbally or by raise of hands) to show which fact they believe to be the lie about the person. The person will then share which fact was, in fact, the lie. (use this one if you have a lot of time) Hopefully there will be a lot of laughing. The point is to have a “get to know you” time.
2. Go around the room and have each person share their three “facts” with the class. Then have the class decide together and vote on which fact they believe is the lie. Then the person can confirm which one it really is. (use this one if you don’t have a lot of time)

Adjective Introduction

Have students introduce themselves using an adjective with the first letter of their first name and say their name (e.g., “Creative Chris”) then, they will answer two of the following questions that will be written in the whiteboard.

* What is the weirdest thing you’ve done?
* What’s your favorite hobby?
* What’s your major of study?
* What’s the strangest thing you’ve ever eaten?
* What’s the farthest from Yucaipa you’ve ever traveled?
* What’s your favorite movie?
* Favorite class from high school and why?
* The thing you’re looking forward to most about college?
* What are you afraid of about college?
* What’s your biggest phobia?

Colored M&M’s

Place three M&M’s in a Dixie cup (1 per student), and hand them out. Tell them not to eat the M&M’s. The students (with the tutor going first) then stand and, depending on the colors of their M&M’s, answer the following questions. Everyone answers: name & major; then by color, brown: biggest pet peeve, red: favorite part of school, yellow: favorite song/band, orange: favorite food, blue: favorite color, green: hometown.

Commonalities

The group breaks into small groups (3-5 students); each group must name three non-obvious things they have in common, and then report to the large group. This gives students a chance to discover classmates that have similar interests, backgrounds, professional goals, etc.

Complete the Sentence

Write a sentence on the board & have everyone introduce themselves and finish the sentence with their own thought.

Sample sentences:

* One of my favorite movies is…
* I want to travel to …
* I really like…
* I wish I had…
* When I’m 50 years old I want to…

Introduce your Neighbor

Take five minutes for students to talk to their neighbor, and have the students introduce each other to the rest of the group.

Toilet Paper Introduction

Have everyone pass around a roll of toilet paper with the instruction of, “Take as much as you need.” For each square taken, students must tell something interesting about themselves.

Who’s Who

Have students write a couple of things about themselves on a 3x5 card. Have two or three students go to the front. You read the cards of those students and have the rest try to guess who is who.