

Fish-Bowl Questions

Cut and place the list of topics into a jar or container. Each day pick out 1 or 2 at a time. Record notes as needed and speak about the topic for three minutes.

Describe yourself.	Describe your family.
How much time do you spend with your family?	What do you like to do together as a family?
What do you do? (Job)	Where are your responsibilities at home?
What are your responsibilities as a _____?	Describe a typical day at work.
Do you enjoy your work?	If you could change your job or profession, what would you do?
Tell me about your home country.	Describe your education.
What is the education system like in your home country?	What was your favourite school subject as a child?
How are schools in Canada and your home country the same and different?	What do you plan to study at _____?
Describe your hometown.	Is it easy to travel around your home town?
How often do you travel back to your hometown?	Why did you immigrate to Canada?

What are some similarities between your home country and Canada?	What are some differences between your home country and Canada?
What are the main industries in your home town?	What language are spoken in your home country?
What languages are spoken in your household?	Compare your hometown with another city.
What is the weather like in your home country?	Does the weather affect your mood?
What's your favourite season of the year? Why?	What do you like to do when it is hot?
What do you like to do when it is cold?	What are the season's like in your home country?
Tell me about your children.	Tell me about your grand children.
What kind of building do you live in?	How long have you lived in your present house?
Describe your childhood home.	Tell me about your syblings.
Do you like to travel? Why or why not?	What places have you visited in your life?
What's the best place you have ever visited?	Do you think computers help society?

How do you think computers have changed the world?	Do you use the internet much during the day?
How do you use computers at work?	What do you usually do on the internet?
What are some advantages of the internet?	What are some disadvantages of the internet?
Do you send and receive email regularly?	Who do you usually communicate with by email?
Who do you usually communicate with by telephone?	Who do you usually communicate with by mail?
Do you think email has strengthened or weakened people's writing skills?	Describe a friend.
Describe a place you would like to go.	Tell me about your hobbies.
If promoted, how would your job change? (e.g. responsibilities)	What genre of tv shows do you watch in English?
Which is your favourite English radio show?	What is your learning style?
How do you multitask at work?	What inspires you in your job?
What inspires you in your hobbies?	How do you balance responsibilities at work with your time outside of work?

Describe the town in which you grew up.	What led you to move to Ottawa?
Describe the process of completing your _____.	What would be your dream job?
Tell me more about the University of _____.	Describe the process you would need to do to achieve your dream job.
	What led you to complete a _____ degree in college/university.
Why did you not continue in the field of _____?	Describe the process of creating a _____.
What do you enjoy about _____?	What skills are involved in _____?
Why would you like to move to _____?	What do you imagine living in _____ would be like?
How is _____ different to _____?	Describe the process of moving to Ottawa.
What will you do at Christmas? (Include numerical dates such as 25th.)	Describe your family's Christmas activities.
What is a typical Christmas meal for your family?	What are your strengths and weaknesses in English?
What is it like to work for _____?	Describe the co-workers you work with on a regular basis.

Describe the process of contacting a client by phone.	Describe the process of contacting a client by e-mail.
What are three key differences between English and French?	What tools do you use in your job?
How did you solve a problem recently at work?	What are typical challenges you face at work?
What do you do when a document has a word or phrase you are unsure of?	What is the difference between _____ and _____?