FIRST STEP

Read the following text:

It was the first day of class. Two of her new ESL classmates wanted to know where Tara was from. They were both from Iraq. Because Tara looked Iraqi, one of the women asked Tara, in English, if she was from Iraq. Tara replied, "No, I'm not." Then the women took turns asking Tara if she was from Iran, or Syria, or Jordan. To each question, Tara responded with a simple no. Laughing, one woman said to the other, "She's not from anywhere!" The two went to their desks, talking to each other in Arabic.

The next day, the teacher divided the students into groups of four. The students in each group asked introductory questions of each other. A student in Tara's group asked her, "Where are you from?" Tara answered that she was from Iraq. The two women who had questioned Tara the day before were sitting only a few feet away. Both of them heard Tara's response.

"Aha!" they both exclaimed. "You ARE from Iraq!" Tara smiled and said yes. Then she apologized to both of them for lying the day before. She explained that she had not wanted to get into an Arabic conversation with them. It had been her experience that many ESL students continued to speak their native language in ESL class, and Tara had not come to ESL class to practice her Arabic. In her opinion, ESL students should try to speak English only.

"I agree," said Rose.

"You're 100 percent right," agreed Jennifer. "Rose and I must stop speaking Arabic to each other. Right, Rose?" Rose nodded, and then said something in Arabic. All three women laughed.

Over the next four months, Tara became friendly with both women, although she never spoke a word of Arabic to them during class or break.

Source: http://www.rong-chang.com/

SECOND STEP

The following words are in the short story. Look at the dictionary and write their translation

Arabic
break
exclaim
introductor
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
nod
opinion
response
THIRD STEP

Yes/No Questions Quiz

Answer the following yes/no questions with the correct short answer. For example: Yes, he did. OR No, he didn't.

Was it the first week of class?

Did two classmates want to know where Tara was from?

Were the two classmates from Iran?

Did one of them ask Tara if she was from Iraq?

Did Tara say that she was from Iraq?

Did they keep trying to find out where she was from?

Did they joke that Tara wasn't from anywhere?

Did the two girls speak Arabic?

Did the teacher divide the students into four groups?

Did the students draw pictures of each other?

Check Answers

Was it the first week of class?
No, it wasn't.

Did two classmates want to know where Tara was from?
Yes, they did.

Were the two classmates from Iran?
No, they weren't.

Did one of them ask Tara if she was from Iraq?
Yes, she did.

Did Tara say that she was from Iraq?
No, she didn't.

Did they keep trying to find out where she was from?
Yes, they did.

Did they joke that Tara wasn't from anywhere?
Yes, they did.

Did the two girls speak Arabic?
Yes, they did.
Did the teacher divide the students into four groups?
No, he didn't.
Did the students draw pictures of each other?
No, they didn't.

FOURTH STEP

Fill in all the gaps

It was the first day ____ of class. Two of her new ____ classmates wanted to know where Tara ____ from. They were both from Iraq. Because Tara ____ Iraqi, one of the women asked Tara, in English, if she was from Iraq. Tara replied, “____, I’m not.” Then the women took turns asking Tara if she was from Iran, or Syria, or _____. To each question, Tara responded with a simple ____. Laughing, one woman said to the other, “She's not from anywhere!” The two went to their desks, talking to each other in ________.

The next day, the teacher divided the _______ into groups of four. The students in each group asked introductory questions of each other. A student in Tara’s group asked her, “______ are you from?” Tara answered that she was from ________ The two women who had questioned Tara the day before _______ sitting only a few feet away. Both of them heard Tara’s response.

“Aha!” they both exclaimed. “You ______ from Iraq!” Tara smiled and said yes. Then she ______ to both of them for lying the day before. She explained that she had _____ wanted to get into an _______ conversation with them. It had been her experience that many ESL students continued to speak their ______ language in ESL class, and Tara _____ not come to ESL class to practice her Arabic. In her opinion, ESL students ______ try to speak English ________.

“I agree,” said Rose.

“You’re 100 percent _______,” agreed Jennifer. “Rose and I must _____ speaking Arabic to each other. right, Rose?” Rose nodded, and then said something in Arabic. All three women ________.

Over the next four months, Tara became ________ with both women, although she ______ spoke a word of Arabic to them ______class or break.

Check Answers

It was the first day of class. Two of her new ESL classmates wanted to know where Tara was from. They were both from Iraq. Because Tara looked Iraqi, one of the women asked Tara, in English, if she was from Iraq. Tara replied, “no, I’m not.” Then the women took turns asking Tara if she was from Iran, or Syria, or Jordan. To each question, Tara responded with a simple no. Laughing, one woman said to the other, “She's not from anywhere!” The two went to their desks, talking to each other in Arabic.

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Fifth Step
Write your project