



**PINES** ACADEMY  
**INTERNATIONAL**



# Speak Zone



English as a  
Foreign  
Language



## Introduction

Speak Zone is a one-on-one discussion class book designed to challenge the speaking skills of the student. The book aims to practice the student to express his/her own point of view on the different issues and topics in discussion.

The book is divided into four clusters. These clusters are discussed as the weeks progress, and as the week advances, the level of difficulty of the topics changes.

Under each cluster, there are five sub-units. The sub-units contain an article, dialogue or an image that introduces the topic. The class is designed to stimulate the student's appreciation with various topics by the teacher throwing questions about them. The units contain a speaking guide that contains vocabularies or expressions to assist the student in answering. The units also encourage exchange of ideas between the teacher and the student, so the student can ask questions as well.

## Say Something...

Happy First Day! How about we meet each other first?

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|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Three words that would describe you.</li> <li>2. The biggest <b>misconception</b> people tend to have about you.</li> <li>3. Describe one thing that <b>annoys</b> you.</li> <li>4. Describe your greatest <b>fear</b>.</li> <li>5. Describe a gift you've received that <b>surprised</b> you.</li> <li>6. A country you would like to visit.</li> <li>7. <b>Famous</b> living person you would like to spend a day with and why.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. One thing that has surprised you about this place</li> <li>9. Favorite time of the day and what activities you like to do.</li> <li>10. Favorite <b>junk food</b> as a kid.</li> <li>11. Dream job, house, car, family.</li> <li>12. New sport, activity, or hobby you would like to learn</li> <li>13. What was the best time of your life?</li> <li>14. Happiest childhood memories.</li> <li>15. Your <b>unusual</b> hobby.</li> </ol> |
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### Conversation Fillers

While Listening		While Speaking	
Really?	You're joking!	Well..., Ok..., So...	The point I want to make is....
Right.	What a pity!	Let me think...  I mean...  I guess/think...  You know...  What I want to say is...	Anyway...
Sure.	Short questions (as in "Have you? Did you? Is it?")		Well, what I mean is that ...
How awful! Oh no!	Non-words (as in "mmm, uh-huh...")		Back to our topic ...
			As I was saying ...
			The basic idea is...



## City and Country Life

Where would you prefer to live?

### Describing Cities and Towns

1. **Rustic charm** – appeal that is simple and picturesque
2. **Quaint old buildings** – attractive because of being unusual and old-fashioned
3. **In the middle of nowhere** – an extremely isolated place
4. **Inner city** – the center of the city
5. **Upmarket shops** – for people with expensive tastes
6. **Sprawling city** – spread over a large area



### Towns and Cities and their Problems

1. **Bumper-to-bumper traffic** – so many cars and so close that they are almost touching each other.
2. **Hectic pace** – very busy and fast pace
3. **Congested roads** – roads that are blocked because of too much traffic
4. **Bored rigid** – extremely bored
5. **Derelict buildings** – buildings that are not cared for or are in bad condition
6. **Deprived areas** – not having the things that are necessary for a pleasant life e.g. enough money, good living conditions



### Questions for Discussion:

1. What are some of the **advantages/disadvantages** of living in a city?
2. Do you know the neighbors who live near you?
3. What parts of your town do you like the most?
4. Do you like the **hectic pace** of life in the city?
5. Does your city have any areas with **upmarket** shops?
6. What **aspects** of life in the city would you complain about?
7. What do you think should be done to improve the **living condition** in cities?
8. In what ways are people from cities different from people from small towns?
9. Have you ever stayed in a town that is **in the middle of nowhere**? Did you like it?