

Give Longer Answers: Unit 8

Overview

Here is a handout that will help your students practice the art of giving longer answers (Golden Rule 2). The task is quite simple: students need to rewrite a dialog containing too many questions and short answers by using only two questions with two long answers. This exercise will help make the point that when speaking English, students need to give longer answers in order to make a better impression. This does not come naturally to many Japanese students because of a natural interference from the typical Japanese style of conversation, which is more tolerant of short answers. The trick to this task is to combine several short answers into two long answers using the vocabulary provided as a guide. There are different ways to go about this, and the students can decide how they want to go about it. Encourage them to add extra *Reacting* expressions and improve the *Closing* in order to increase the friendliness quotient.

The final page of this file contains a model answer which you can use to help mark their papers. Remember that this is just one way of going about it; there are other possibilities. Alternatively, you could provide a photocopy of the model and have students compare their version with it.

If you would like a modifiable copy of this handout (.docx format), please get in touch and I can email it to you: talandis@gmail.com

Good luck! Let me know how it goes.

Jerry Talandis Jr.

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Name: _____

"Give longer answers by adding one or two extra pieces of information."
質問をされたら、1つか2つは聞かれていない情報も追加して答えよう。

-Golden Rule 2

Step 1: Read this conversation between Tom and Rina. Rina is giving short answers, so Tom has to ask many questions in order to move the conversation forward.

Tom: Do you think you'll be living with your parents in five years?

Rina: Yes.

Tom: I see. Why is that?

Rina: I don't think I'll be married by then.

Tom: Oh yeah? What do you think is a good age to get married?

Rina: Well, I want to be married by the time I'm 25.

Tom: Really? Why?

Rina: I want to be independent from my parents.

Tom: I see. Would you rather live in Japan or overseas?

Rina: Overseas.

Tom: Oh really? Where?

Rina: Maybe the USA.

Tom: Cool. What is your dream job?

Rina: I want to work as a tour guide.

Tom: Interesting. Why is that?

Rina: I love to travel.

Tom: Sounds exciting. What is important for you in a job?

Rina: I want to have opportunities to work abroad.

Tom: I see. Well, I good luck. I hope it works out for you.

Step 2: Now, rewrite the conversation so that Tom asks only **two** questions, and Rina gives two long answers. Add some Reacting expressions to make a friendlier feeling.

Tom: _____

Rina: _____

Tom: So, Rina, do you think you'll be living with your parents in five years?

Rina: Yes, probably. I don't think I'll be married by then. I really want to get married by the time I'm 25. I want to be independent from my parents.

Tom: I see. Would you rather live in Japan or overseas?

Rina: Overseas, I think, maybe in the USA. My dream job is to work as a tour guide.

Tom: Cool.

Rina: I love to travel. I want to get a job with a company that gives me opportunities to work abroad.

Tom: I see. Well, good luck! I hope it works out for you.

Rina: Thanks! I'll do my best!