

<http://www.mes-english.com/games/bigtown.php>

Big Town is a small little town settled somewhere between here and there. This is a fun conversation game for role plays, speech acts, dialogues and other communicative activities. There are over 80 residents in Town and even some that you would not likely expect. **The cards come in English French and Spanish versions.** They contain a picture and all sorts of information, name, age, birthday, height, weight, number of family members nationality, occupation, place of work, evening schedule, hobbies/interests, and a few of their favorite things. There are adults, children, aliens, warriors, princesses, and more, all the ingredients for a very vibrant town.

How to play the game:

It is a simple take the card from your friend game. Basic flow is as follows:

1. Students assume the personality (they become the person on the card.)

2. They introduce themselves to their partner.

A: Hi, my name is Tom Armstrong. What's your name?

B: My name is Pam Anders. It's nice to meet you, Tom.

A: Nice to meet you, too, Pam.

3. Then, they attempt to win the other student's card.


One way is to in turns ask a yes/no question and try to guess their partner's information ([get country flash cards here.](#))

A: Are you from Japan?


B: No, I'm not. Are you from Canada?

A: Yes, I am.

Tom Armstrong



a businessman
Big Town Car Company

Age: 25
Birthday: June 10
Height: 183cm
Weight: 132 kg
Family members: 4
Nationality: Canadian

 Canada

Evening Schedule

Sun.	read
Mon.	watch
Tues.	study
Wed.	play
Thurs.	go to
Fri.	clean
Sat.	work

Hobbies:
 movies, swimming,
 music

Favorites:
 color: purple
 food: steak
 dessert: cake

In this case A loses and gives his card to B. Then, they break away and go find another partner and play again. As for order you can play rock paper scissors to decide who goes first or bring out their aggressiveness and tell them whoever asks first, goes first.

Another way to play is highest number wins. After steps 1 and 2 above, the students play rock paper scissors and the winner decides the question, for example:

How old are you? / How tall are you?

How much do you weigh? (but do tell them this a question we don't usually ask)

How many people are there in your family?

When is your birthday? (whoever was born latest in the year wins)

A: How old are you?

B: I'm 26. How old are you?

A: I'm 25.

In this case A loses and gives his card to B. Then, they break away and go find another partner and play again.

The 2nd step can be lengthen to include some questions you want the students to practice, for example have them also ask:

What do you do?

Where do you work/go to school? Where is that?


What's your favorite color?

What do you do on Saturday evenings?

What do you like to do?

Where are you from?

Pam Anders



Age: 26
Birthday: July 4
Height: 184cm
Weight: 57 kg
Family members: 2
Nationality: English
 England

an actress
Big Town Movie Studios

Evening Schedule

Sun.	study
Mon.	go to
Tues.	watch
Wed.	read
Thurs.	play
Fri.	clean
Sat.	work

Hobbies:

shopping, music
baseball

Favorites:

color: pink
food: fish
dessert: chocolate

When's your birthday?

What are you going to do this weekend?

What did you do last Sunday?

A: Hi, my name is Tom Armstrong. What's your name?

B: My name is Pam Anders. It's nice to meet you, Tom.

A: Nice to meet you, too, Pam.

B: So, what do you do, Tom?

A: I'm a businessman, and you.

B: I'm an actress.

Han Chop



Age: 18
Birthday: May 9
Height: 188cm
Weight: 75kg
Family members: 1
Nationality: Italian

 Italy

a ninja
Big Town Castle

Evening Schedule

Sun.	watch
Mon.	clean
Tues.	work
Wed.	go to
Thurs.	study
Fri.	play
Sat.	read

Hobbies:
art, basketball
movies

Favorites:
color: red
food: ramen
dessert: pudding

The 1st step can be changed and the students can take the personalities as the friend to practice the third person singular.

A: Hi, Mark. This is my friend, Tom.

B: Hi, (real name.) This is my friend, Pam.

A: Where is Pam from?

B: She's from England. Where is Tom from?

A: He's from Canada.

Rock Paper Scissors (A wins)

A: Does she play tennis on Mondays?

B: No, she doesn't. Does he go to the mall on Saturdays?

A: No he doesn't. Does she watch movies on Tuesdays?

B: Yes, she does.



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