



Pam Tiberia Michael Berman

Janet Battiste Linda Butler



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Connect with English, Conversation Book 1

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网 址: http://www.pup.cn

电子信箱: zbing@pup. pku. edu. cn

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举报电话: (010)62752024 电子信箱: fd@pup. pku. edu. cn

To the Teacher

The primary goal of each *Conversation Book* is to help students develop oral communication skills using the themes found in *Connect with English* as a springboard for classroom discussion. This introduction and the following Visual Tour provide important information on how each *Conversation Book* and the corresponding video episodes can be successfully combined to teach English as a second or foreign language.

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Each Conversation Book has 12 chapters which contain a variety of pair, group, team, and whole-class activities that are based on important issues and ideas from the corresponding video episodes.

The activity types vary with each chapter but generally include an assortment of role-plays, discussions, opinion surveys, games, interviews, and questionnaires. In each chapter, a special two-page section is devoted to longer games, information gaps, and songs from the *Connect with English* soundtrack. Students also have the opportunity to work on special project pages found in appendices in the back of the book. These projects provide students with the opportunity to explore key themes outside of the classroom.

THEMATIC ORGANIZATION:

Events and issues that are familiar and important to all ESL/EFL learners have been purposely included in the *Connect with English* story. These topics were carefully chosen for their relevant cultural content, and they provide a rich context for the communicative activities found in the *Conversation Books*. As students watch the video story and become familiar with the events and characters, the *Conversation Books* provide a framework within which students can freely discuss the ideas presented in each episode. Throughout *Conversation Books 1-4*, students are given the opportunity to explore such varied themes as the following:

- Pursuing Your Dream
- Making Future Plans
- Looking for a Job
- Making New Friends
- · Money vs. Love
- Having Fun
- Apologizing
- Making a Difficult Decision
- Gossip
- Divorce and Remarriage
- Regrets
- Anger

- Making Compromises
- Spending Money
- Adulthood
- Best Friends
- Managing Priorities
- Parenting
- Helping Others
- The Death of a Loved One
- Dedication
- Moving
- Holidays
- Life Lessons

PROFICIENCY LEVEL:

The activities found in each Conversation Book are designed for use with high-beginning to intermediate students. Special icons are used to identify the difficulty level of each activity in the book. These icons help teachers tailor the activities for the needs of students at different levels of language proficiency.



Arrows pointing up indicate that the difficulty of an activity can be increased.



Arrows pointing down indicate that an activity can be simplified.



Arrows pointing in both directions indicate that the difficulty level of the activity can be either increased or simplified.

Detailed teaching suggestions on modifying each activity are found in the accompanying Instructor's Manual.

OPTIONS FOR USE:

The Conversation Books are specifically designed for classroom use. While it is assumed that students have watched the corresponding video episode at least once before attempting the activities in the book, it is not necessary to have classroom access to a TV or VCR. Teachers may choose to show the video during class time, or they can assign students to watch the video episodes prior to class, either in a library, language lab, or at home. Class time can then be used for completion of the activities found in the Conversation Book.

Each Conversation Book can be used as the sole text in any course that emphasizes oral communication skills. Teachers also have the option of combining the Conversation Books with other corresponding texts in the Connect with English print package:

- Video Comprehension Books 1-4 contain a variety of comprehension activities that enhance and solidify students' understanding of main events in the video story.
- Grammar Guides 1-4 provide multilevel practice in grammar structures and vocabulary items derived from the Connect with English video episodes.
- Connections Reader Series (16 titles) offer students graded reading practice based on the Connect with English story.
- Video Scripts 1-4 include the exact dialogue from each of the video episodes and can be used in a variety of ways in conjunction with any of the other texts in the Connect with English program.

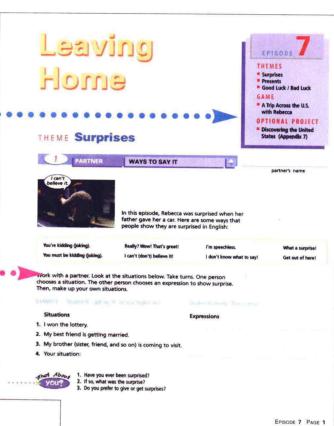
For additional information on these and other materials in the *Connect with English* program, please refer to the inside back cover of this book.

A VISUAL TOUR OF THIS TEXT

This visual tour is designed to introduce the key features of Conversation Book 1. The primary focus of each Conversation Book is to help students develop oral communication skills within the context of the Connect with English story. Conversation Book 1 corresponds to episodes 1–12 of Connect with English, and it presents an assortment of activities dealing with various aspects of communication, including explaining, questioning, interviewing, reporting, paraphrasing, describing, stating feelings/opinions, and more.

Themes drawn directly from the video episodes are listed at the start of each chapter. In Episode 7, activities are based on the themes of Surprises, Presents, and Good Luck/Bad Luck. A two-page game is devoted to Rebecca's trip across the U.S., and an optional project offers students an opportunity to become more familiar with the United States.

A regular feature of the Conversaton Books, Ways to Say It activities introduce students to several common expressions used in daily conversation. Special effort has been made to include high-frequency, natural language which reflects the language used in the video episodes and in everyday speech in the United States and Canada.



THEME Presents 2 PARTNER DISCUSSION In-line skates Inather jacket Inather

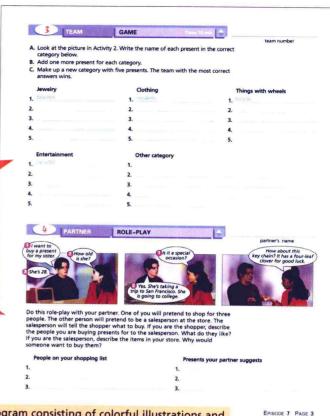
Multilevel Activities

Special icons are used to show the difficulty level of each activity in the book. These icons are designed to help teachers tailor the activities for the needs of a multilevel group of students. An arrow pointing up indicates that the difficulty of an activity can be increased, while an arrow pointing down a indicates that an activity can be simplified for lowerlevel students. Arrows pointing in both directions indicate that the activity can be adjusted in either direction. Detailed teaching suggestions for how to change the level of each activity in Conversation Book 1 are included in the accompanying Instructor's Manual.

Activity bars identify the start of each numbered activity and indicate whether the activity is designed for pairs, groups, teams, or whole-class participation. Descriptors such as **Discussion**, **Interview**, or **Role-Play** alert teachers to the type of activity that follows.

Variety of Activity Types

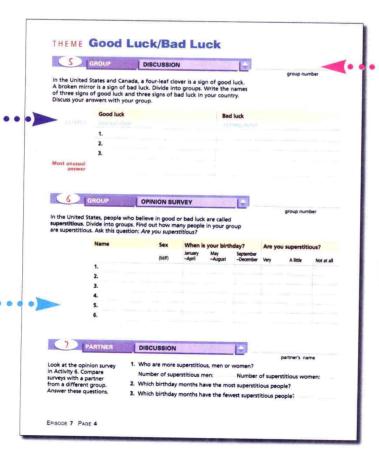
Each chapter contains a variety of activity types that feature different student combinations and communicative objectives. For example, Activity 3 on this page features teams competing in a timed categorizing game, while Activity 4 asks partners to perform a role-play involving the purchase of a gift.



An extensive art program consisting of colorful illustrations and photo stills from each episode creates a visually stimulating environment as the basis for many communicative activities.

Activities such as group discussions and opinion surveys invite students to share personal experiences and opinions as they relate • • • to the themes from the video story. In Activity 5, students compare ideas about symbols of good and bad luck.

Conversation Book 1 often features a logical progression of activities. For example, a group survey on superstition in Activity 6 is followed by an analysis of the data in Activity 7. This organization reinforces important concepts and vocabulary and provides an additional opportunity to discuss various issues evolving from each theme.



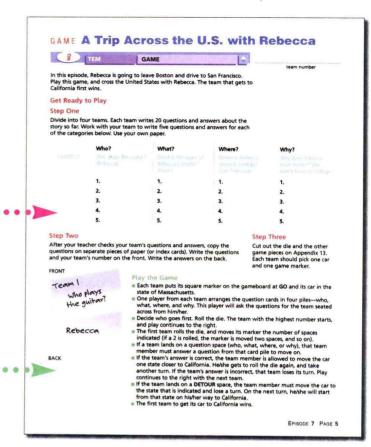
Spaces that allow students to indicate partner name, group number, and team number make it easier for students and teachers to keep track of student collaborations. Group and team numbers are also useful when different groups are asked to compare and contrast survey or discussion results with one another.

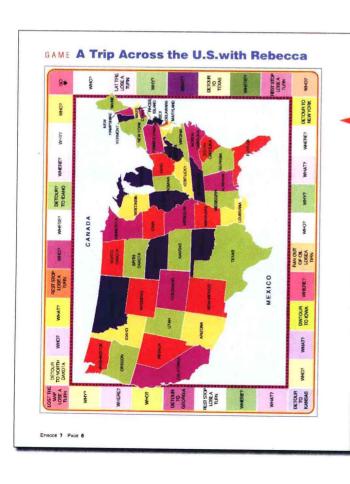
Two-Page Activity

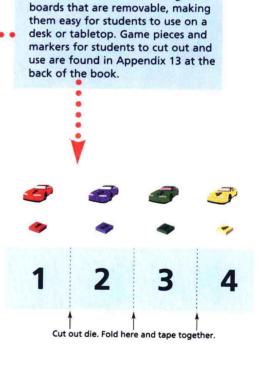
Each episode contains an extended theme which is covered in a longer, two-page activity. These themes are developed into games, information gaps, or activities based on songs from the *Connect with English* soundtrack.

This two-page game, "A Trip Across the U.S. with Rebecca," centers on Rebecca's trip from Boston to San Francisco. In this game, students are involved in the creation of the game questions. This participation simultaneously increases motivation and reviews important concepts and vocabulary related to the story.

Step-by-step explanations and clear, concise examples provide necessary structure and format as students prepare and create game cards. Game instructions are presented in an organized fashion that takes students through each step of play.





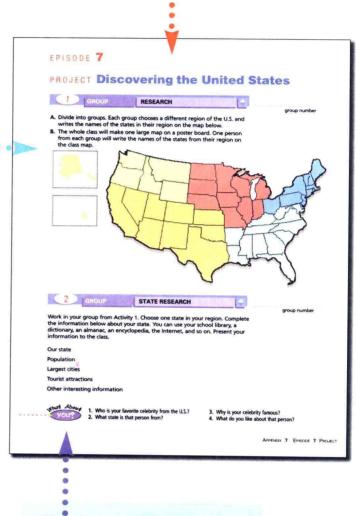


Each book contains colorful game

Project Page

Optional project pages correspond to each episode and are found in appendices located at the back of the book. Project pages contain research-oriented activities or community surveys and polls based on important themes from each episode. These projects reinforce the communicative nature of the Conversation Books and invite students to expand their learning and conversation to areas beyond the classroom environment.

On this project page, students discover different regions of the United States. As they gather information, students are often asked to synthesize their findings with those of their classmates in order to gain a complete understanding of the theme. Many times, students will be asked to make a class presentation, which serves the dual purpose of solidifying their own knowledge of the material and successfully communicating it to their classmates.



What About You? activities provide open-ended questions that encourage students to express their personal feelings, opinions, and reactions to the events and characters in the story. These activities create a springboard for more sophisticated discussions among students who are at higher levels of oral proficiency. What About You? activities can also be used as optional writing assignments.

Table of Contents

TO THE TEACHER V A VISUAL TOUR OF THIS TEXT viii

	THEMES	TWO-PAGE ACTIVITY	OPTIONAL PROJECT
EPISODE 1 REBECCA'S DREAM	 Favorite Songs Pursuing Your Dreams Male/Female Relationships 	Song: Traveling Light	Choosing a College (Appendix 1)
EPISODE 2 DIFFERENCES	 Making a Shopping List Taking Care of Someone Friendship 	INFORMATION GAP: SAVING MONEY	Working in a Factory (Appendix 2)
EPISODE 3 A VISIT TO THE DOCTOR	Going to the DoctorCareer ChoicesBarbecues	GAME: WHAT'S YOUR JOB?	Holidays (Appendix 3)
EPISODE 4 CELEBRATIONS	Expressing CongratulationsGraduation from High SchoolGetting Accepted	INFORMATION GAP: DIFFERENT TYPES OF FAMILIES	Being Proud (Appendix 4)
EPISODE 5 BREAKING THE NEWS	Buying a Used CarA Shopping MallFormal and Informal Clothes	GAME: A PARENT'S APPROVAL	Shopping for Clothes (Appendix 5)
EPISODE 6 SAYING GOODBYE	Saying Goodbye to FriendsMusic LessonsJunk Food	INFORMATION GAP: BASEBALL	The Boston Red Sox (Appendix 6)

	THEMES	TWO-PAGE ACTIVITY	OPTIONAL PROJECT
EPISODE 7 LEAVING HOME	SurprisesPresentsGood Luck/Bad Luck	GAME: A TRIP ACROSS THE U.S. WITH REBECCA	Discovering the United States (Appendix 7)
EPISODE 8 THE STRANGER	Talking to StrangersBeing AfraidCar Trouble	SONG: WHERE'S MY BABY?	The Desert (Appendix 8)
EPISODE 9 THE MOTEL	Being PoliteHelping SomeoneAnswering Machines	INFORMATION GAP: DATING	Staying in a Motel (Appendix 9)
EPISODE 10 NEGOTIATIONS	Good and Bad DreamsBargainingSelling Your Car	GAME: CAR REPAIRS	Native Americans (Appendix 10)
EPISODE 11 PHOTOS AND FAREWELLS	 Taking Photos Taking a Bus Trip Speeding	INFORMATION GAP: IMMIGRANTS IN THE U.S.	Nature and Natural Beauty (Appendix 11)
EPISODE 12 A NEW HOME	Living in a Boarding HouseCultural DifferencesGrowing Old	INFORMATION GAP: PAYING BILLS	Retirement Homes (Appendix 12)

APPENDICES 1–12 OPTIONAL PROJECT PAGES, EPISODES 1–12 APPENDIX 13 MANIPULATIVES

Rebecca's Dream

THEME Favorite Songs

THEMES

Favorite Songs

FPISODE

- **Pursuing Your Dreams**
- Male / Female Relationships

SONG

Traveling Light

OPTIONAL PROJECT

Choosing a College (Appendix 1)

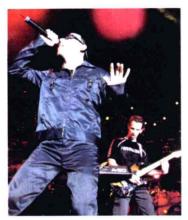


GROUP

SURVEY



group number









Pop

Rock

Jazz

Step One

Look at the pictures. What's your favorite type of music? Circle your favorite.

Step Two

Divide into groups. Talk about music with your group.



Rap





- A. Vote on your favorite type of music. Write the number of votes for each type of music in the small lines under the pictures.
- B. Add up the votes. What's your group's favorite type of music? What type of music does your group like the least?
- C. Compare your answers with those of another group. Do both groups like and dislike the same types of music?





Country

DISCUSSION



Think about your two favorite songs. Who sings (or plays) these songs? What type of music are the songs (pop, rock, jazz, and so on)? Why do you like these songs?

- A. Fill in Chart A with your answers. Then, tell your partner about your favorite songs.
- B. Your partner will tell you about his/her favorite songs. Write what your partner tells you in Chart B.
- C. Do you and your partner both like the same type(s) of music?

 Are any of your favorite songs (or singers or musicians) the same?

	Schools, and the Change .		
Name of song	Singer or musician	Type of music	Why you like it

CHART B: YOUR PARTN	NER'S FAVORITE SONGS		
Name of song	Singer or musician	Type of music	Why your partner likes it
1.			
2.			

THEME Pursuing Your Dreams



GROUP

DISCUSSION



group number

- In this episode, Rebecca tells Kevin about her dream of going to music school.
- A. What is your dream? Draw a picture of your dream on a separate piece of paper. Do not write your name on it.
- B. Fold the paper. Everyone in your group will put his/her paper in a pile.
- C. Pick a drawing (not your own) from the pile. Try to guess the person's dream from the drawing. If you can't guess the dream, the person who drew the picture will tell you what it is.
- D. Vote on the most interesting dream.

(name)

has the most interesting dream.



How important are your dreams? Think about your dream from Activity 3. What would you do to make your dream come true? What wouldn't you do?

- A. Write your answers in the chart below.
- B. Interview your partner. Ask these questions:
 - What is your dream?
 - What would you do to make your dream come true?
 - What wouldn't you do?
- C. Write your partner's answers in the chart. Did any of your partner's answers surprise you?

	YOUR DREAM		YOUR PARTNER'S DREAM	
	Things you would do	Things you wouldn't do	Things your partner would do	Things your partner wouldn't do
EXAMPLE	go to school	ask someone for money	work two jobs	quit school

THEME Male/Female Relationships



GROUP

SURVEY



group number

In this episode, Rebecca and Matt talk about their relationship. They each want different things. Sometimes people want different things in a relationship.

Interview three women and three men. Write the women's answers in Chart A and the men's answers in Chart B. Ask each person this question: What two things are most important in a relationship?

CHART A: WOMEN'S ANSWERS		
Name	Most important thi	ngs in a relationship
1.	1.	2.
2.	1.	2.
3.	1.	2.

CHART B: Men's Answers			
Name	Most important thi	ngs in a relationship	
1.	1.	2.	
2.	1.	2.	
3.	1.	2.	

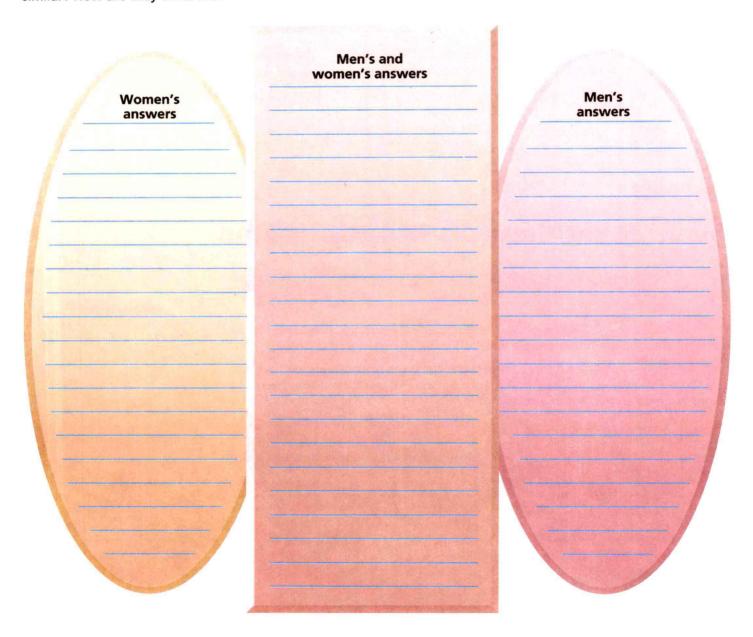
PARTNER

partner's name

Work with a partner. Compare the women's and men's answers from your chart in Activity 5. Combine your survey answers in the picture below.

- Which answers did both men and women give? Write these in the middle part of the picture.
- Which answers did only women give? Write these answers in the left part of the picture.
- Which answers did *only men* give? Write these in the *right* part of the picture.

When you finish, join another pair and compare your pictures. How are they similar? How are they different?





- 1. Do you have a good relationship with someone?
- 2. Do you know many people who have good relationships?
- 3. Is it hard work to have a good relationship?

SONG Traveling Light



GROUP

SONG

group number

In this episode, Rebecca sings a song about her dream. The name of the song is *Traveling Light*. To **travel light** is an idiom. It means to travel without many things, or to take only the things you really need.

Rebecca wrote the song *Traveling Light*. The words that she wrote are called **lyrics**. Look at Rebecca's song below. Many of the words, or lyrics, are missing. Work with your group to fill in the correct words in the empty spaces.

- **A.** Divide into small groups. Read the lyrics to Rebecca's song. If you remember any of the missing words, fill them in.
- B. Try to guess what the other missing words are.Write your guesses in the spaces, or at the end of the line.
- C. For the remaining words, read the clues in the box. Fill in the words so that the lyrics are complete.
- **D.** When you are finished, look at the song lyrics on page 6 to check your answers.

Irave	eling Light
I've got my	, and I've got my hat.
I've got my reason to ride.	
I've got my	, but they're
(3)	behind.
I'm traveling light.	
I've got my	, and I've got my
(5) I've got my reason to ride.	
I've got some dreams, I'm go	oing to hold on tight.
l'm (6)	light.
Outside the	are slipping by,
each with its own little light	
Inside the	are dreaming,

CLUES

- a piece of paper which shows you have paid for a trip
- 2. events and things you remember
- 3. a long way
- 4. a large bag or box to carry clothing
- something warm to wear over your clothing
- 6. going somewhere
- 7. places where people live
- 8. human beings
- 9. this evening

SONG Traveling Light



GROUP

SONG

Ŷ

group number

Here are the lyrics to Rebecca's song, *Traveling Light*. Check your answers on page 5.

	AAVAAVAAVAAVAAVAAVAAV
	Traveling Light
Verse 1	I've got my ticket, and I've got my hat.
	I've got my reason to ride.
	I've got my memories, but they're far behind.
	I'm traveling light.
Verse 2	I've got my suitcase, and I've got my coat.
	I've got my reason to ride.
	I've got some dreams, I'm going to hold on tight.
	I'm traveling light.
Verse 3	Outside the houses are slipping by,
	each with its own little light.
	Inside the people are dreaming,
	just like the dreams I have tonight.



PARTNER

WRITNG A SONG



partner's name

- **A.** Work with a partner. Write one more verse for the song, *Traveling Light*. Think about these questions:
 - Where do you think the person in the song is going?
 - What is he/she going to do there?

Use Verses 1 and 2 of the song as examples to help you write. Notice that the last line of each verse ends with the sentence: *I'm traveling light*. Use your imagination. Have fun!

- **B.** When you finish, practice singing your verse together. Then sing or say it for the class.
- C. Vote on the best verse. The pair with the most votes wins.

Your verse to Traveling Light