

Topic: Education

Activity: Communication and Learning English: A Lesson Plan for Use With Darfuri Refugees

Objectives	Participants will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ describe why learning English is important in the United States✓ explain that the process of learning English will take time✓ identify some ways they may be able to learn English✓ share some ways to communicate while still learning English
Lesson Time	50 minutes
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Darfuri Refugees in the United States</i> (http://www.cal.org/co/videos/Darfuris/Darfuris.html)• Internet access, laptop, projector, and screen, or DVD, television, and DVD player• Flipchart paper, markers, tape• <i>Communication and Learning English: Images Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)• Writing implements, 1 per participant (to accompany worksheets)• Optional: <i>Communication and Learning English: Quotes Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)
Introduction	Greet participants in English. Encourage participants to respond in English. Learning English will be very important for you and your family to get around and succeed in the United States. It will be helpful to start learning English as soon as possible. This will take time, but your English will improve.
Viewing Activities	Tell participants that the group will now watch a 25-minute video of interviews with Darfuri refugees resettled in the United States. Ask participants to pay special attention to what the speakers are saying about learning English, and the different ways they have learned. View <i>Darfuri Refugees in the United States</i> .
Practice	In small groups of 3-4, participants discuss what the speakers said about the importance of learning English. Participants also share ways they might learn English. Bring the large group together and ask for highlights from the small group discussions. Record highlights on a flipchart.
Discussion Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why will it be important for you and your family to learn English?• What are some ways you might be able to learn English?• What are some ways you can communicate while you are still learning English?
Variations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. When working with more literate participants, distribute <i>Communication and Learning English: Quotes Worksheet</i>. After viewing the video, participants complete the worksheet and discuss their answers in small groups. These quotes can also be utilized during the large group discussion to highlight other related

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topics discussed in the video.

Key English Vocabulary

English
teacher
to study

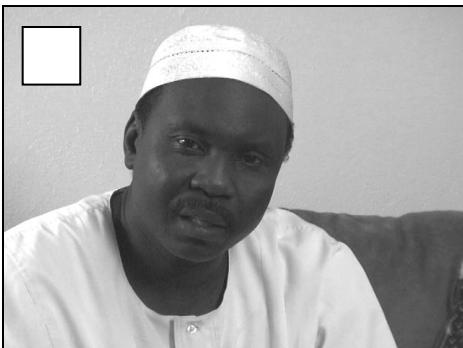
interpreter
to communicate
to take time

language
to learn
to talk

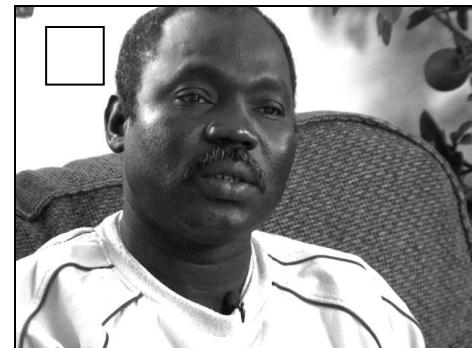
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Communication and Learning English: Images Worksheet

*Directions: As you watch the DVD, look for the images below.
Put a check (✓) in the box next to the image when you see the image.*



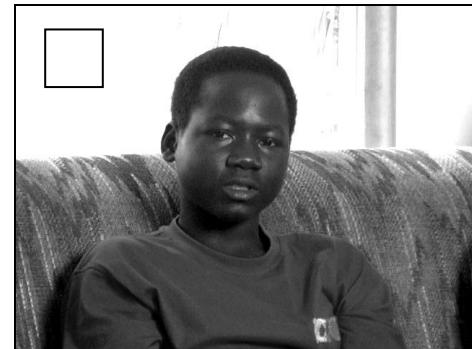
Kamal Khamis



Adam Mohammed Babiker



Omhagain Dayeen



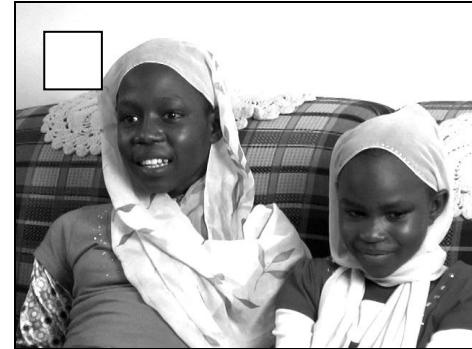
Noussouraddine Zakaria



Fatne Dehie Wadi



Anwar Zakaria



Siham Abdallah Hassan

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Communication and Learning English: Quotes Worksheet

*Directions: Read the quote from the DVD.
Decide what the key messages are, and how you feel about them.*

Quote	Key messages?	How do you feel about these messages?
<u>Kamal Khamis:</u> People don't have to be scared; kids learn English fast here. They learn faster than the adults.		
<u>Fatne Dehie Wadi:</u> Even though we don't know Arabic, we don't know English, it's still a good start for us. I need to go and study, but Grandma is sick and I need someone to help take care of her and the kids. When we go out, we don't know how to communicate with people.		
<u>Adam Mohammed Babiker:</u> The biggest problem is language. English is a problem that we faced when we got here. If someone learns English before they come here it's going to be a lot easier for them... I didn't know the language. It was very hard for me. When I went to the hospital or other places, I was always looking for interpreters.		
<u>Omhagain Dayeen:</u> I couldn't speak English – I was just using body language. When we were educated in Sudan, we were taught in Arabic. We talked Arabic, not English, and it was hard even to spell my own name. Thank God, when I came here I took classes to learn English and I started taking advanced classes and even started using the computer.		
<u>Noussouraddine Zakaria:</u> When I first came to America, when I went to school, it was very difficult because I couldn't understand the teacher. The other students used to help me with everything. The other students used to help me with the tests and the homework.		

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