

Strategies and Pragmatics

Select a language function you are interested in learning more about (e.g., apologies, compliments, greetings).

Function: _____

Now, with your group, apply the following strategies to learn more about the function you chose:

Interview an expert speaker to find out more about the function.	Have the expert answer the following questions: (a) How often does the function occur in everyday speech? (b) Are there specific 'rules' about when and how to use the function? (c) What are some example phrases that can be especially helpful in performing or comprehending the function?
Observe the function in use in three different contexts. You can find samples in live interaction, on film, or on the radio. You can also read about the function if you are having trouble finding examples.	What are five things you notice about the function you have chosen?
Compare the function in the language you are learning with the language you know best.	What are the similarities? Differences?
List 3-5 phrases that are most useful for performing and comprehending the function you have chosen.	
Note anything else interesting you have learned about the function.	