**Name Games**

The following games are good icebreakers and allow students and teachers to become familiar with other’s names in a new class. They are useful for any age group including adults.

- One person starts with a ball. S/he says her name and then the name of the person to whom s/he is going to throw the ball e.g. ‘Kate to Barry’. S/he then throws the ball and the person who has (hopefully) caught it continues the game by saying his or her name and then throwing the ball to someone else e.g. ‘Barry to Liz’.

- Continue the game until everyone has had at least one turn of catching and throwing the ball. It may be necessary to stop the game and find out who hasn’t had a turn and then check their names.

- You do not need a ball to play this game. It works nearly as well if each person points to another stating his or her name and the person to whom s/he is pointing.

- Everyone stands in a circle (if there is a large group it may be a good idea to divide them into two or three circles). One person is chosen to begin by saying his or her name and one thing they like e.g. ‘I’m Sarah and I like chocolate biscuits’. The person to the right of the starter introduces that person and then his or herself e.g. ‘this is Sarah and she likes chocolate biscuits and I’m Vanita and I like singing’. This continues until the last person has introduced everyone else in the circle and his or herself.

- If you have begun with more than one circle you may then want to join the groups and start again as one big circle (how successful this is will depend on how good a memory your students have!)

- Put students into pairs (they need to be with someone they don’t already know) and ask them to spend 5-10 minutes interviewing each other. You should give them several questions as guidelines e.g. what is your name? What was your last school? How are you feeling right now? What are your hobbies? What are your aims for this year in English?

- Each person should then introduce his or her partner to the whole class telling the class no more than three things about him or her including his or her name.