

**Topic: Gratitude (Thanks)**

**First things first** – Give students a chance to talk about anything large or small that they did or that happened to them since the last class. Ask: "what's up?" or "what's been going on in your life?"

**Let's get started** . . . What did you thank someone for recently? What did someone thank you for recently?

**Story:** Bob came home from Home Depot, parked the car on the driveway and went inside his house. Half an hour later, the doorbell rang. Bob was busy repairing the kitchen sink. He ignored the doorbell, thinking, *it's some sales guy*. The doorbell rang again. "Grrrr," said Bob, as he got up from the kitchen floor and went to the door. He opened the door and frowned at the stranger standing on the porch. "What do you want?" Bob said. The stranger handed Bob a black wallet and said, "This was on the driveway next to your car." Immediately Bob's attitude changed. "Oh, thank you. Wow, I appreciate it!" "No problem," said the stranger.



**How did Bob's attitude change? Has this kind of thing ever happened to you? Describe it.**



**In pairs, talk about the questions below. Switch partners and talk again.**

1. What are you thankful for **every day**?
2. What do **you** forget to be thankful for?
3. What do other people **forget** to thank **you** for?



**Share something from your conversation with the large group.**

**Interview** 3 people. Write their names in the far left column, and then write their answers for each category. Say, "How important is \_\_\_\_\_ to you?" Answers can be:

1. (Not important), 2. (A little important), 3. (Very important). Then ask "Why?"

Name	 <b>Health</b>	 <b>Money</b>	 <b>Family</b>	 <b>Work</b>	<b>Religion</b> 



Teach each other to say "thank you" in your native languages.

In your native culture, do you have several ways of saying thank you - some formal, some casual? Describe when you use the different ways of saying thank you?

**Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups. Change groups from time to time.**

**In your native culture, does . . .**

An employee thank his/her boss?

A boss thank his/her employee?

A child thank his/her parents?

A parent thank his/her children?

A spouse thank his/her spouse?

A friend thank his/her friend?

A stranger thank a stranger?



In your native culture, how do you thank someone? Do you thank someone by saying "thank you", or with money, by your actions, with a written card, with a phone call, with a present or in some other way?

What is a traditional way to thank someone? What is a modern way to thank someone? How do **you** thank someone? How do **you like to be thanked**?

How did you thank someone recently?

**Practice saying thank you.** In what situations would you use each of these phrases? Role play a situation for each one.

**Formal thank you:** "I greatly appreciate \_\_\_\_\_". **Formal response:** "You are very welcome. It's my (our) pleasure."

**Normal thank you:** "Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_". **Normal response:** "You're welcome."

**Casual thank you:** "Thanks a lot." **Casual response:** "No problem."

**New vocabulary:** recently, doorbell, rang, repairing, ignored, wallet, driveway, attitude, appreciate, formal, casual

**Keep talking about it this week:** Ask a coworker or friend to name 5 things they're thankful for. Write down what they say and share it at Talk Time next week.

**More on thank you notes in English:**

[http://www.emilypost.com/everyday/thank\\_u\\_note\\_qna.htm](http://www.emilypost.com/everyday/thank_u_note_qna.htm)