



# Sentence completion questions

## Listening – Sentence completion questions (script)

I would like to welcome all our international first year students to the University today. What I'm going to be talking about is some of the challenges you may face when adjusting to life here in your new home.

Living and studying abroad in a culture that's quite foreign to your own can sometimes be challenging and occasionally students may experience what is known as culture shock. What we'll be doing today is giving you some advice that should hopefully make settling in a much easier process.

So let's have a look at some of the challenges that you could possibly experience.

Something new students struggle with when they first arrive is the language. They may feel isolated and think that it will be hard to fit in, in this new and unusual environment. What we have found however is that because you're exposed to English on a daily basis, student's communication skills tend to improve very quickly. This means that things get easier in a short amount of time for those who make the effort to use English as much as possible.

Getting lost also used to be quite a commonplace occurrence for students arriving from other countries, but that's a thing of the past because the University has well and truly stepped into the 21st century and we now have our own smartphone application. Yes that's right we have our own app that will not only help you navigate your way around campus with its inbuilt map, but you can also access the library and its resources using the app, or even the gymnasium if you decide to become a member. Furthermore you can view your timetable using the app, so there should never be any problems knowing where and when your next class is.

Food is always something that our foreign students miss when they arrive. Thankfully within walking distance of the University there's a variety of affordable restaurants featuring dishes from a number of different ethnicities. You will also find Harris Markets located approximately 1.5km to the North West of the University when you walk along Simpson Street. Here you will find a diverse range of foods and ingredients if you wish to cook yourself.



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Food is often not the only thing that students miss, and we do see some students suffering from homesickness from time to time. We suggest that you get involved in University life as quickly as possible and we recommend you join one of the clubs here at the University. We have a variety of different clubs that range from the arts to sporting, cooking or even outdoor adventure clubs. This will help you settle in and make friends far more quickly, as being away from your family and friends means you need to build a new support network to assist you during your time here.

Speaking of assistance we have introduced what we call the buddy program where we team you up with another student who has recently completed their first year of University. These 'buddies' are students who will be familiar with the experiences you will have when beginning your new course. This person will be someone to whom you can ask questions and is there to help you transition into your new life in this country without experiencing too many problems. Your buddy can show you to how create your student profile here at the University, so you can access all of the materials you will need, and this can be done at no cost. You'll be scheduled to meet with your buddy on the first and third Thursday of every month, but if you need to ask them further questions they will let you know how to contact them when you meet them this afternoon.

If you do require any further help or assistance or for more formal enquiries, we suggest initially that you contact the Head Tutor of your course and we do also have a Counsellor onsite you can talk to if required.

I wish you all the best and I hope you enjoy studying abroad, which brings with it the possibility of many new and fantastic experiences.



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