

## SPEAKING ACTIVITY

### **BIZZARE EVENTS** (very strange and unusual events)

**Dr. K. Elango**, Head, Dept. of English, Anna University,  
Chennai & ELTAI-National Secretary  
Email: [elangoela@rediffmail.com](mailto:elangoela@rediffmail.com)

**Objective** : To enable learners to spice up their communication by bringing in bizarre events that happened in their lives, or those they have read or heard about.

**Preparation** : Focused reading on bizarre events from sources, such as books / newspapers / magazines / web sites to store them to recall at the appropriate moments of communication; and chewing the cud of some such events that had happened to them.

**Participation** : In small groups

**Duration** : About 3 minutes

#### **Procedure :**

- The teacher shares with the class one or a few bizarre events he had come across in his/her own life or heard/read about from some source.
- The teacher gets a couple of articulate volunteers to share a few bizarre events from their own experiences.
- The teacher sets up small groups of four students each and instructs them to share some bizarre events one after the other.
- When sharing gets over, they are asked to provide feedback about their ability to express themselves.
- The best performing group is asked to re-enact their sharing to the whole class and feedback is given to them.

#### **Learning outcomes:**

1. Learners recognize that sharing such things as bizarre incidents can make their interactions interesting.
2. Learners understand that communications when interspersed with something of this sort (but suitable to the context) can make them become effective communicators.

**Further Activities** : Learners should try to employ interesting bizarre incidents (but relevant to the contexts) in their communications as often as possible.

#### **Examples of bizarre events (From the archives of *Times of India*):**

- *Man picks trash too early, jailed*
- *Crows bring gifts to girl who feeds them*
- *Weasel 'hitches ride' with woodpecker*