

UNIT 15

Exchanging Personal Information: Life Events

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Discussing Nationalities

Read the situation below before watching the videotaped conversation "Discussing Nationalities." Then watch the tape and try to follow the intent of the exchange. Do not concern yourself with unfamiliar signs, but use context to help you figure out the meaning. After you are able to understand the conversation, fill in the information requested throughout the dialogue below.

Situation: Tina Jo, Cinnie and Mary chat outside on a balcony at a pool party. When Cinnie leaves to get drinks, the conversation turns to discussing her nationality.

- Cinnie:* offers to get drinks for the others
- Tina Jo:* } respond
Mary: }
- Cinnie:* says that she'll be back
- Tina Jo:* **asks** Mary what Cinnie's **maiden name** is
- Mary:* gives name: Nettum
- Tina Jo:* **asks what nationality the name is**
- Mary:* **tells nationalities** of Cinnie's parents
[fill in father's nationality] _____
[fill in mother's nationality] _____
- Tina Jo:* **asks the origin** of Cinnie's husband's name (Brennan)
- Mary:* **gives information** [origin of husband's name] _____
- Tina Jo:* **comments**
- Cinnie:* (returns with drinks)
- Mary:* (to Cinnie) checks information about Cinnie's parents
- Cinnie:* confirms
- Tina Jo:* explains **what she thought Cinnie's nationality was** [fill in nationality] _____
- Cinnie:* comments that others have thought the same thing, asks about Tina Jo's nationality
- Tina Jo:* **gives information**
[fill in mother's nationality] _____
[fill in father's nationality] _____
- Cinnie:* responds

Answers on p. 142.

Key phrases that express target language functions for this unit are highlighted. Replay the conversation and rehearse the key phrases.