

**Topic: Needs/Wants**

**Let's get started...** Make a list of 3 things that you **want** and 3 things that you **need**. Share your list with your neighbor.

**Story:** Joe loves to play basketball. But, his basketball shoes are worn out. He tells his mother, "I need a new pair of basketball shoes." He shows her the toes and soles of his shoes. Joe's mom agrees that he needs new shoes. While Joe is at school, Joe's mom goes shopping. She finds a great deal on basketball shoes at Target. When Joe comes home, he takes one look at them and says, "Mom! I don't want **THOSE** shoes. I need Nike Hyperdunk shoes!" Joe's mom rolls her eyes. "You may **WANT** Nike Hyperdunk shoes, but you don't **NEED** them. They're very expensive. These shoes will do just fine for what **you need**."



**What do you think** about Joe's need for new basketball shoes? Do you agree with Joe or with his mom? Why?



**In pairs, talk about**

What does your native country need?  
What does the U.S. need?



What does your neighborhood need?  
What does your family need?

**Share with the larger group something you learned.**

**Interview** 3 people about what they need and want. Write down their names. Ask them, "Do you need more \_\_\_\_\_?" Use one of the words from the grid below. And then write their answers for each box. Ask them to explain.

Name	Rest 	Time 	Space	Friends 	Work 

**Discussion Questions:**

New or Used

What items would you NEVER buy **used**? What items do you USUALLY buy **used**? What are the advantages (pros) and disadvantages (cons) of buying something used instead of new? Would your parents or kids buy something **used**? Give examples.

**Interview** 2 people about buying decisions. Ask them, "Who decides what \_\_\_\_\_ you will buy?" Ask them to explain.

Name	Food 	Clothing 	Car 	Toys 	Tickets 

Change or Stability

1. Do you want or need more change or more stability? Explain.
2. Do you need more or less variety in your life? Explain.



**Challenge questions:**

1. Someone said, "Happiness is **not** having what you want. It is wanting what you have." Do you agree? Why or why not?
2. Buddhism teaches that "**Suffering** stops when **desire (wanting things)** stops." Do you agree? Why or why not?

**Dialogue**

**Bill and Hong** are talking about the donuts that someone brought to work. Bill wants to control his weight, but if he sees donuts, he will want to eat them.

<i>Harder</i>	<i>Easier</i>
Hong: I wonder who brought the donuts? Bill: I wish people wouldn't bring sweets! Hong: Why? Bill: Because then I eat them! Hong: So don't eat them. Bill: It's too hard for me to resist.	Hong: Look, there's donuts. Bill: Oh no! Hong: What's wrong? Bill: I'll eat them. Hong: Is that bad? Bill: Yes. I'll get fat.

**New words and Idioms:** used, never, usually, change, stability, variety, buying decisions, suffering, desire

**Keep talking about it this week:** Ask a coworker or friend: "What do you need?" and "What do you want?" Write down their answers and share at Talk Time next week.