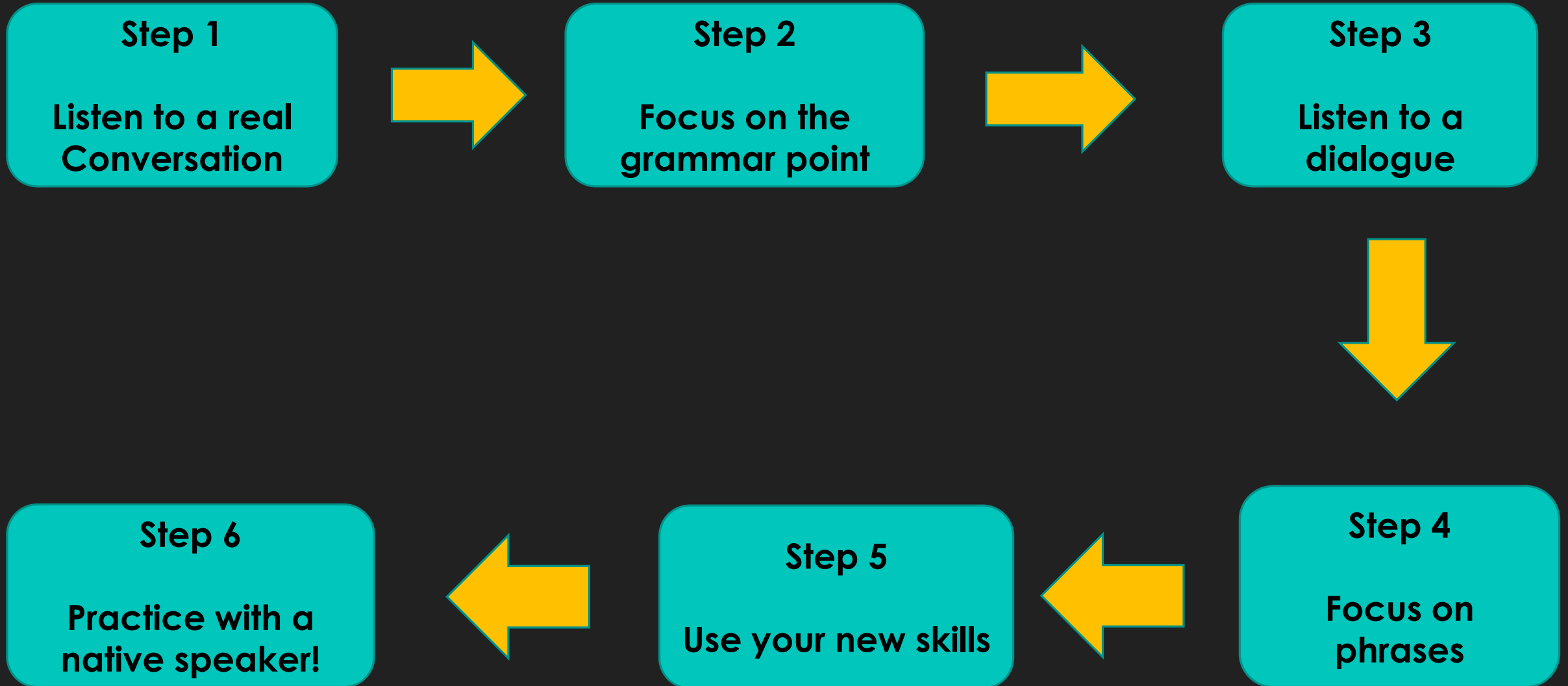




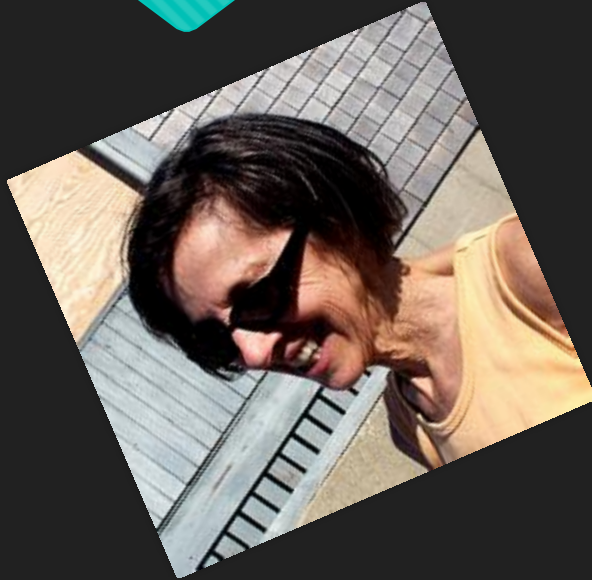
# What Are the 3 Most Interesting Experiences You Have Had?

A Grammar Lesson (Using Present Perfect versus Simple Past)

# Our Method



# Step 1- What Interesting Experiences Have You Had?



Please listen to  
“Audio Step 1-  
Most Interesting  
Experiences”



What have you done in your life? Have you traveled? Have you learned to play an instrument?  
Have you gone skydiving?

In this conversation, Lindsay asks Georgia about the experiences that she has had in her life.

**Please open Transcript Step 1- 3 Most Interesting Experiences**

## Step 2: Focus on the grammar point

Georgia has done some interesting things in her life!

Are you ready to learn how to talk about your own experiences?

Please click on the following link to practice: “How to Talk About Your Life Experiences in English”



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**Born in  
1947**

**Went to  
college**

**Went to  
Japan**

What's the difference between “college” and “university”? [Please see this article](#)



## Step 3: What Have You Learned in Your Life?

In this dialogue, Rebecca asks Lauren what she has learned so far in her life.

Please listen to the conversation and try to understand as much as possible.

To listen, please click on link “Audio Steps 3 and 4: What Have You Learned in Your Life?”

EXPERIENCE IS THE TEACHER OF ALL THINGS.  
~JULIUS CAESAR

The only source of knowledge is experience.  
~Albert Einstein

We do not learn from experience...we learn from reflecting on experience.  
~John Dewey

If you are not thinking about what you are learning, you probably are not learning.  
~Jim Knight

# Step 4: Look at the grammar in context



Now let's look at how the grammar is used in context!

Please open the file "Transcript Steps 3 and 4: What Have You Learned in Your Life" and look at how we use this grammar form in the conversation.

## Step 5: Use Your New Skills

**Please take the quiz and check your answers on the credits page**

- 1) Since I turned 25 the years \_\_\_\_\_ (to fly by)
- 2) What \_\_\_\_\_ (you, to learn) when you were a kid?
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (you, to feed) the cat yet?
- 4) How many different cities \_\_\_\_\_ (she, to visit) so far in her life?
- 5) She \_\_\_\_\_ (to live) in 10 different countries while she was in her twenties.

# Step 6: Practice with a Native Speaker

- What are the top 3 most interesting experiences that you **have had** in your life? When and where **did you have** those experiences?
- What **have you learned** about life in general? What **have you learned** about money? Work? People?
- **Have you ever visited** a foreign country and felt uncomfortable or confused? Please describe the experience- what happened?
- What **did you learn** while you **were** in college? **Have those lessons helped** you throughout your life?
- Do you like to challenge yourself physically? (for example, climbing mountains, running races) What **has been** the toughest physical challenge that **you have ever taken on** in your life? Please describe the challenge.



# Step 6 continued...

- Please complete this sentence based on your definition of success: "If you can go through life and say that you have \_\_\_\_\_, (*traveled a lot, loved many people, learned a lot*) then you have lived a successful life". Why do you think that? According to your own definition of success, **have you lived** a successful life?
- Since you started studying English **what has been** your biggest challenge?
- **Have you ever forgotten** an important person's birthday? How **did you make it up** to them?
- How much studying **have you done** so far this week? How much studying **did you do** last week?
- **Have you ever met** someone famous? What **did you say or do**?

# Step 6 continued...

- What is the craziest thing **you have ever done**? Why **did you do** it? Would you ever do it again?
- **Have you ever tried** changing your diet? If so, how **did it work**? Were you able to maintain the new diet?
- What is something that **you have always wanted to do** but **haven't done yet**? Why **haven't you done** it? What is holding you back? When do you plan on doing it?

# Credits

1. Playing cello:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/stevensnodgrass/>
2. Rafting: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/familymwr/>
3. Mom and Baby: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nellyy/>
4. Learning quotes:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/mrsdkrebs/>
5. Learn to surf: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/epsos/>
6. Tanah Lot temple:  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/egorick/>

## Answers to step 5 quiz:

- 1) **Have flown by-** “since” is a trigger word for the present perfect form. Until now, the years have flown by
- 2) **Did you learn-** use simple past- we assume that the person is not a kid anymore “When you were a kid”
- 3) **Have you fed-** “yet” is a trigger word for present perfect= until now

# Credits continued

## Step 5 Quiz answers:

**4) Has she visited=** we use the present perfect because we are asking how many cities she has visited until now- she is still alive = "so far"

**5) She lived=** We use simple past here because she is no longer in her twenties