

1. Introduce yourself to the other members of AA (Agony Anonymous).
2. Explain what your problem is.
3. Ask for advice. The other members of the group try to give you advice on what to do, using the phrases we've established in the previous activity.

Name: Tom

Age: 44

- You are a bachelor and live with your elderly mother.
- You and your mother are very close. She cooks for you (she's an amazing cook!) and does your laundry.
- You have never had a girlfriend.

Problem:

- You think you're ugly and you are scared to talk to women.
- You started talking to a woman on the Internet recently.
- She sounds nice, but you don't know what she looks like and what her cooking is like.
- She has suggested that the two of you should meet up.

Possible structures of suggestion and advice:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| - You should... | - I think it would be better if you... |
| - Why not... | - I think you had better... |
| - What about... | - You (absolutely) must... |
| - Why don't you... | - You might try (+gerund) |
| - I think you should (+verb) | - I think it would be a good idea if you... |
| - If I were you, I would (+verb) | - etc. |
| - If I were in your position... | |
| - I suggest you (+verb) | |
| - Have you thought about (+gerund) | |
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Name: Lisa

Age: 32

- You're married and have two kids.
- Your husband works full-time and you are a stay-at-home mum.
- You love to sing.

Problem:

- You are convinced that you have the best voice in the world since Mariah Carey
- You feel that you have given up a great career as a singer for your family
- You start resenting your husband for this and you punish him by putting strange things into his food, hiding his socks in the morning and you stopped laughing at his stupid jokes (feel free to expand the list...)
- You think it might be a good idea to run away and join the X Factor (Deutschland sucht den Superstar) as this might be your last chance for your international breakthrough

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Name: Henry

Age: 35

- You are the CEO at a successful company.
- You are very rich.
- You are single (but this has nothing to do with your problem).

Problem:

- Since you were a little boy, you've dreamed of becoming a circus clown.
- You have saved some money, but you are worried you might be too old for a career change
- You're not quite sure whether being a circus clown really is the right job for you and you don't know who you could discuss your problem with.
- The problem makes you very unhappy and you cannot sleep anymore, which has started to affect your regular job.

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Name: Maggie

Age: 25

- You work as a secretary at a school.
- You love nature and animals.
- You have 7 cats and you're thinking about getting number 8.

Problem:

- You stopped going out as you feel much more comfortable with your cats at home.
- You talk to your cats as if they were real people and you have your meals with them on the floor.
- Your boyfriend left you because he felt he couldn't compete with your cats anymore.
- You have pictures of your cats on your desk at work – your colleagues think you're a bit weird.

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