Speaking and Listening – Level 1

Sample 1 Group discussion: How do we communicate?

Extract 2

Note: Students have been numbered left to right from 1 to 5.

TEACHER: So do we only use our voice to communicate?

STUDENT 5: Well, no. Sometimes we use computers or phones, like, to call people or send messages, because if they’re not calling and they’re not answering, you can send them a message and then they can get the answer later.

TEACHER: How do people … how could people communicate how they’re feeling?

STUDENT 5: Oh, well, their body language.

TEACHER: Talk a little bit more about that.

STUDENT 5: Like, if they’re frustrated, they … eyebrows are down sometimes.

TEACHER: Mm-hm.

STUDENT 5: Are they?

No. Are they?

STUDENTS: Yes.

STUDENT 3: Yeah.

STUDENT 5: Oh.

STUDENT 1: Um … Sometimes you can use emojis.

Like, so, if you, like … if you, like … if you send something really funny, you can just do, um … smiling and crying - you go like, “Oh!”

STUDENT 3: Like, funny crying.

TEACHER: So when might you use more formal speech?

STUDENT 3: When you’re speaking to your mum and dad.

TEACHER: Mm-hm. When else might you use more formal speech?

STUDENT 2: Like, probably when you’re talking to a grown-up.

STUDENT 4: When you’re talking to the office, because you don’t just wanna go, “I don’t have my parents here.” Or why …

You don’t wanna go, “Where are my parents?!”

You wanna go, “Will you please tell me where my parents are?”

TEACHER: OK. So, we use those manners that we talked about.