



# Observation and Analysis: Example Answers

---

[LFO Module – Autonomous Learning]



In this guide, you will participate in observation of someone completing one of your goals and a short analysis of what you witnessed.

### Observation Guide

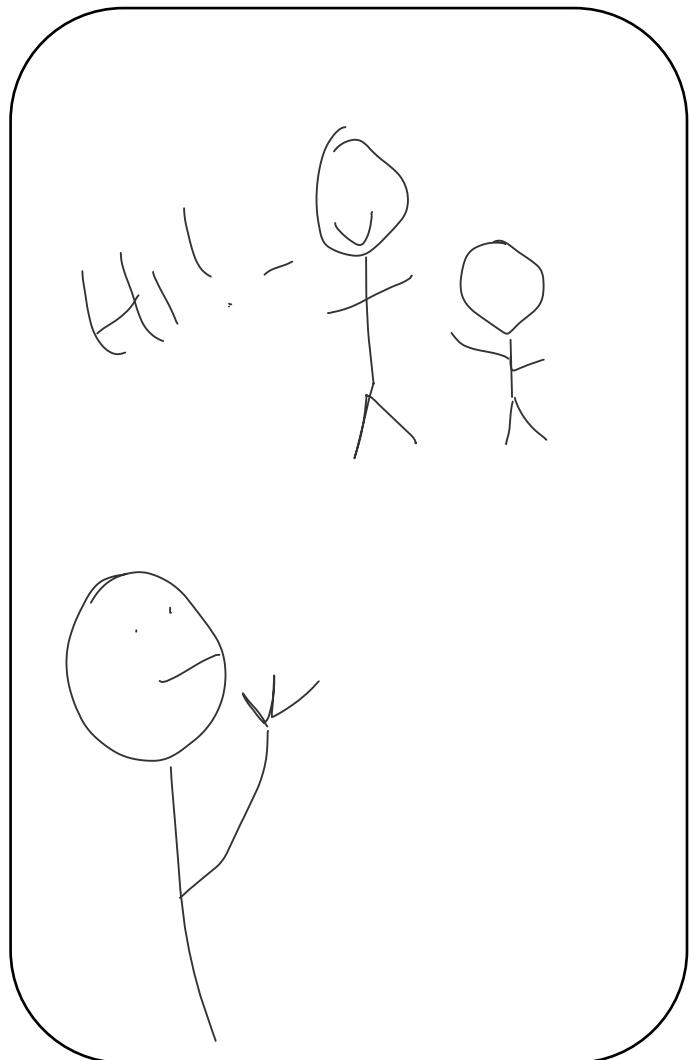
My goal is Talking with my neighbor

Choose an appropriately similar task to observe. Be sure it is representative of your goal in some manner with applicable language. I will watch a clip from a TV show where neighbors are talking (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1COucIcyhU>)

Take notes on what you observed here:

The first thing the neighbors did was greet each other. I think that maybe they are friends. It looks like they are meeting for the first time though. Neighbors smile a lot! Then the parents go over to greet their new neighbors. They seem like maybe they don't like the new neighbors. But the neighbors are still smiling and happy. They shake hands and talk about general things. Then the parents invite the neighbors to a party at their house even though they don't seem to like them. Wow! People are nice to their neighbors!

Draw what you observed here:



## Analysis Guide

After completing your observation, answer the following questions:

1. What was the tone of the interaction? Formal / **Informal** / Neutral
2. How do you know? Mention any clues you saw!

They said things like, "Hi, how're ya?" and mentioned taking their son in to use the bathroom. You wouldn't talk to your boss like that! Even though they just met, they are smiling a lot and using casual words. I think they have an informal tone and posturing also.

3. What was different about what you saw from other displays of language you've seen in the past? Any special greetings, vocabulary, send-offs, transitions, etc?

This interaction was very casual even though they just met. This is different from usual first greetings where you need to be very polite. They could talk about anything, but they mainly mention the house and the neighborhood. The parents invite them to a party even though they don't want to. That must be special to neighbor relationships.

4. Below, please describe what you learned from your observation. Will it change how you communicate? Why?

I will be more casual with my neighbors when I talk to them because I know that I can be. In the past I thought I had to be very formal with my neighbors, but now I know I do not even though I don't know them well. I also learned that it is common to invite your neighbors over when you are having a party or an event. I don't think that I will do that though because I am not comfortable having people in my house or yard without knowing them well. I think if I get to know my neighbors better, then I will invite them over. However, I learned not to be surprised to receive an invitation and that it is genuine. I think that is nice and very open of American culture.



**Center for Applied Second Language Studies  
(CASLS)**

5290 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-5290  
(541) 346-5699 | [info@uoregon.edu](mailto:info@uoregon.edu) | [casls.uoregon.edu](http://casls.uoregon.edu)



[facebook.com/casls.nflrc](https://facebook.com/casls.nflrc)



@casls\_nflrc



casls\_nflrc