

Speaking

- a. Look at the following text. Read it to yourself. When you feel happy that you know how to say the words, read it aloud:

In front of Barcelona's Arc de Triomf, Adrià Ballester sets up two foldaway chairs and a sign in large letters that reads: "Free conversations!" Anyone is welcome to stop, sit and chat with him in Spanish, English or Catalan about anything they like. "The idea is just to talk freely for a while," the 26-year-old writer and storyteller explains.

"We live in a world where it's often easier to send a message to someone from another country than to say good morning to our neighbours," says Ballester, who uses Facebook (Free Conversations Movement) and Instagram (@freeconversations) to promote his project. He posts photos of himself and those who choose to chat along with their reflections and sometimes startling revelations.

At times he feels like a therapist. "You hear good, positive stories and really tough ones, too. A lot of people will tell you about a tricky episode in their life, maybe heartbreak or a job loss. There's a bit of everything," he says. A 70-year-old Lithuanian woman even talked about the years she spent in a Russian concentration camp.

During the coronavirus crisis, Ballester took the conversation online, setting up randompenpals.com, a site that invites users to "get a quarantine PenPal in 10 seconds". He plans to publish a manifesto and aims to spread his initiative to other major cities around the world.

- b. Now look at this image. Tell me as much as you can about the picture:

