

# Are you afraid of...?

- Asking about fears
- Talking about fears

## 1 | Vocabulary

**A** Complete the questionnaire about fears. Check (✓) the correct column or columns for each type of fear.

Do you or does someone you know have any of these fears?	You	Someone you know
1. fear of heights		
2. fear of public speaking		
3. fear of flying		
4. fear of the dark		
5. fear of spiders		
6. fear of snakes		
7. claustrophobia		

**B PAIR WORK** Compare your chart with a partner's chart. Do you have any of the same fears? What is the most common fear? What is the least common fear?

## 2 | Conversation

**CD2 02 A** Listen. What is Daniel afraid of? What is Anthony afraid of?



Daniel: I'm really nervous. I have to give a presentation tomorrow.

Anthony: Oh, you don't like public speaking?

Daniel: That's an understatement. I'm terrified of it!

Anthony: Yeah, a lot of people are. In fact, I've heard that it's one of the most common fears.

Daniel: Really?

Anthony: Yeah. It's even more common than the fear of flying.

Daniel: Are you afraid of public speaking?

Anthony: No, not really.

Daniel: What are you afraid of?

Anthony: Well, I have claustrophobia. I'm afraid of being in small spaces. I'm also uncomfortable around snakes and spiders. They give me the creeps.



**B PAIR WORK** Practice the conversation.

**CD2 03 C** Listen. Write the three extra sentences you hear in the conversation. Practice the new conversation.

## 3 | Language Booster

**A** Notice the ways we ask about and talk about fears.

### Asking about fears

What are you afraid of?  
Are you afraid of (public speaking)?  
What's your greatest fear?  
Do (snakes and spiders) scare you?

### Talking about fears

I'm afraid of/scared of/terrified of (public speaking).  
I'm nervous (about public speaking).  
(Public speaking) makes me nervous.  
I'm uncomfortable around (snakes and spiders).  
(They) give me the creeps.

**B PAIR WORK** Ask and tell your partner about one of your fears.

Examples:

**A:** What's your greatest fear?

**B:** I'm scared of spiders. They make me nervous.

## 4 | Pronunciation Using a low tone to show negative emotion

**CD2 04 A** Listen to these sentences. Notice the low tone used for the words that show negative or serious emotion. Compare it with the higher tone used for positive emotion.

Negative	Positive
1. What's your greatest fear?	What's your favorite color?
2. I'm afraid of flying.	I really like flying.
3. Snakes give me the creeps.	Snakes are fascinating creatures.

**B PAIR WORK** Ask and tell your partner about one fear, like you did in the Language Booster section, part B above. This time, be sure to use a low tone for negative words.

ONLINE PRACTICE

## SPEAK with CONFIDENCE

**A PAIR WORK** List things that you are afraid of below and discuss them with your partner.

Fears:


**B GROUP WORK** Talk about the fears you listed above. What are some common fears?

