

Dear Everybody,

First Monday

Do you feel excited at the start of a journey? It can be unsettling but I feel a kind of thrill when I set out. Who knows where we may get to by the end of the two weeks? I have some ways and procedures in mind but am not at all sure what may work best. No group I have met is ever vaguely like another group.

My fantasy is that today will be spent in getting to know each other better and better, bit by bit. Of course different people have different warm-up times and so do different cultures. It is important we don't go too quick.

The program for the next four days will arise out of what I pick up on today. On Friday I will ask you to decide on the program you want for the second week.

An assumption behind this course, at least in my mind, is that language is a question of BEING and not of simply HAVING. Y IS in Japanese and B IS in Polish, it is not just that they HAVE loads of grammar and vocabulary and stuff. My job, as I see it is to help you to greater and fuller BEING in English, not just to have you somehow wander off with bags full of words.

I would really be pleased if you found the time, somehow, to write to me, as my experience is that the written channel allows some people to really express themselves more fully than they can or feel like doing in oral speech. If you can, please bring a letter in tomorrow morning. A short one will do, to get the ball rolling.

Yours warmly,



Mario