

Title:	Mysterious people	
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Text:	<p>In an evening class last week, Hiroshi recalled a ‘mysterious’ old guy who apologized to him after a light collision with his car. The man went on to tell him an interesting story about his unusual job.</p> <p>The rest of the evening was spent talking about people we see regularly but don’t know well enough to communicate with.</p> <p>Yukiko is intrigued by an old woman pushing a bike past her local supermarket late on weekday evenings. ‘EVERY time I go there I see her. I wonder what she’s doing...,’ she said.</p> <p>I jokingly replied ‘Yes, and EVERY time she sees you and thinks the same thing!’</p> <p>I remember when I lived in the UK that one of my neighbours would say ‘hello’ but avoid any further eye contact or communication. What was his name? Where did he come from? What job did he do? Those and many other questions entered my mind...</p> <p>He seemed perfectly normal, except that he used to go running in the summer heat wearing a full-length winter coat.....</p>
Discussion:	<p>Do you see people that intrigue you?</p> <p>Do you think it’s impolite to start talking to a stranger on public transport, for example?</p>
Words and usage:	<p>Intrigue</p> <p>Mostly used in the passive form (be intrigued by...), it describes something, perhaps a situation, that we can’t understand fully because we lack information. Other similar verbs in the passive form are ‘be puzzled by...’, ‘be mystified by....’ or ‘be fascinated by...’</p>
Resources:	<p>https://translate.weblio.jp</p> <p>Oxford Dictionaries. http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com</p> <p>The British Council website. https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org</p>
Practice idea:	<p>Describe one or more people you see and the situation where you see them. Write about their character and the life as you imagine it to be.</p>
Listening link:	<p>EFL Daily - Mysterious people</p> 
Quiz Me! Conversation cards	<p>Available at englishbooks.jp, Amazon and Rakuten</p>