

## International Conversation Cafe

Lifestyle Topic: A New Beginning

1. A new beginning often starts with a new job, school, or relationship.  
*Describe a new beginning you have had in the past.*  
*Explain what will be new for you in this semester.*  
*What expectations do you have for yourself in this new beginning?*
2. Sometimes in a new beginning we have expectations from our employers, professors, friends, and relationships.  
*What is an example of something you expect from your professors here?*  
*What makes you nervous about meeting their expectations?*
3. Eli Khamarov said, "The best things in life are unexpected because there were no expectations."  
*What do you think Khamarov means? Do you agree? Give an example.*

4.



*Sphinx of Hatshepsut*, ca. 1479-1458 B.C. From Egypt, Upper Egypt, Thebes, Deir el-Bahri.  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

*What do you notice about this work of art?*

The sphinx sculpture shows Hatshepsut, a female pharaoh of Egypt who came to power in 1478 or 1479 B.C. While acting as regent for young Thutmose III, she assumed and established her supreme authority. One way she did this was by commissioning statues of herself. To the Egyptians, a sphinx represented a king. Clearly, Hatshepsut marked a new beginning for herself and for Egypt as a female pharaoh.

*What have you done for yourself that marks a new beginning for you?*

Draw a picture or find a digital image representing something that reflects for your new beginning at this university. Share it with your group.