Me / not me

Task description:	You can use this activity for revision or to pre-teach vocabulary sets. Use it with any topic you want to revise or introduce in your lesson (e.g. hobbies, business meetings, food / drinks, entertainment, personality traits, superstitions, etc). Write or brainstorm a list of topic-specific vocabulary on the interactive whiteboard - if possible, a mix of nouns, adjectives and verbs (e.g. around the topic of travelling: backpack, postcard, adventurous, souvenirs, airplane, to pack last minute, etc) Draw two columns labeled "Me" and "Not Me." The student moves each word to the applicable column, depending on whether it is relevant to them. (e.g. if they usually buy souvenirs when they travel, they will move the word 'souvenirs' to 'Me'.) Discuss each choice, with the student explaining why each word was placed in a particular column, stimulating conversation. Ask your student to form questions to determine where you (the tutor) would place the words and have a conversation about your similarities/differences.
Why do you recommend this lesson plan/activity?	● This task is not only a great **speaking activity**. There is a genuine communicative aim because there is an **information gap** between the student and the tutor. ● It's extremely **personalised,** and it also **requires the student to create questions**, which boosts their language production skills and develops a realistic language usage context. ● It can also be used for **vocabulary revision**. As they complete the task, the student has to make decisions about the vocabulary. This encourages **deep processing**, which is key to long-term retention of vocabulary.
Ideas for follow-up activities and modifications:	When working with beginners, you can encourage them to create simple sentences (I like …. because…). This way, even lower-level learners can engage in a personalised speaking activity. As a follow-up, you can get the student to then write a short essay or paragraph about why they do or do not relate with certain vocabulary, or a story using them.