

Talking point 1 *Let's talk!*



Conversation topics

family _____	hobbies _____
future plans _____	movies _____
music _____	sports _____
school _____	travel _____
work _____	friends _____
relationships _____	health _____



Conversation strategies

Address people by name.	Ask questions.
Smile and nod a lot.	Listen attentively.
Maintain eye contact.	Give compliments.
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Smile and nod a lot.	Listen attentively.
Maintain eye contact.	Give compliments.

Talking point 2 *How do you feel?*



You feel shocked.

**You tried to dye your hair blonde,
but it came out green.**

You feel proud.

**You just got a perfect score
on your English test.**

You feel surprised.

**You just arrived home. You open the
door, and a big crowd shouts
“Happy birthday!”**

You feel annoyed.

**You are riding the subway.
The person next to you keeps
falling asleep on your shoulder.**

You feel furious.

**You are writing a report on the
computer. The computer breaks,
and you lose all of your work.**

You feel scared.

**You are sleeping.
A strange, loud noise
wakes you up.**

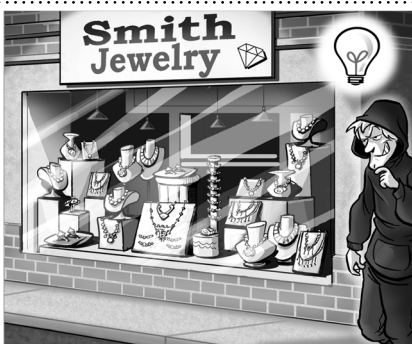
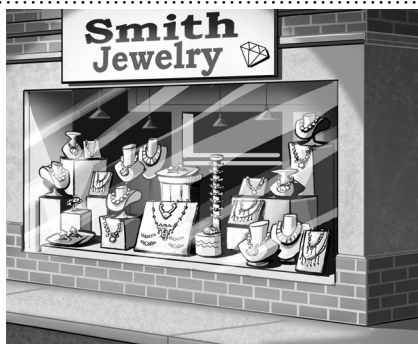
You feel tense.

**You are driving to work.
You get stuck in a big traffic jam.**

You feel worried.

**You have a very important
test today, but you didn’t
study for it.**

Talking point 3 Eyewitnesses



Talking point 4 *International superstitions*

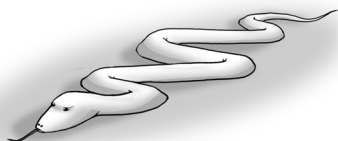
Superstitions cards



(Argentina)

If you drop a coin into a fountain,

you can make 3 wishes.



(Japan)

If you see a white snake,

you'll have good luck.



(the U.S.)

If you break a mirror,

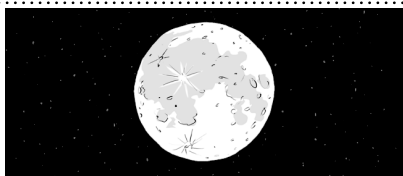
you'll have seven years of bad luck.



(Brazil)

If you put sugar in your cup before the coffee,

you'll become rich.



(Spain)

If you go out during a full moon,

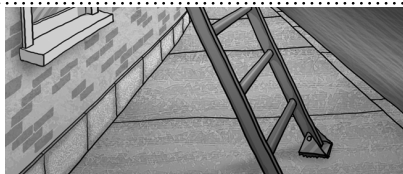
you'll see bad spirits.



(Turkey)

If you are born on the night of a full moon,

you'll have a bright future.



(the U.K.)

If you walk under a ladder,

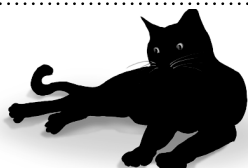
you'll have bad luck.



(Thailand)

If you dream that a snake is holding you,

you'll soon meet your true love.



(Scotland)

If you see a black cat near your home,

you'll soon get money.

Talking point 5 *School concentration*



prom	detention	electives	homeroom
a yearly formal dance	punishment where students must stay after school	classes students choose to take	room where a class reports at the beginning of each day
honor roll	physical education	student council	corporal punishment
a list of students who have very good grades	sports or exercise classes	school government that students run	the physical punishment of students

Talking point 6 *Tips for success*

What do you think each tip means?

Do you agree with all of the tips? Why or why not?

Ten Tips for Success in Business

1. Do what you love to do.
2. Never take No for an answer.
3. Be a team player.
4. Try to balance your work and your personal life.
5. Take control of every situation.
6. Never admit your mistakes.
7. Remember: The customer is always right.
8. Never do business with friends or family.
9. Never disagree with a superior.
10. Take every risk possible.

Now write your own five tips for success.

Our Five Tips for Success

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Talking point 7 *Culture shock!*



Culture A rules:

1. If a person is shorter than you, you must shake the person's hand.
2. Men slap each other on the back when they meet each other.
3. Women hug when they meet each other.
4. Laughing is the way to show friendliness.
5. Eye contact is important.

Culture B rules:

1. If a person is taller than you, you must bow to say hello.
2. Men nod their heads to greet another man.
3. Women shake hands when they meet each other.
4. Laughing is considered rude.
5. Eye contact is usually avoided.

Culture A rules:

1. If a person is shorter than you, you must shake the person's hand.
2. Men slap each other on the back when they meet each other.
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5. Eye contact is important.

Culture B rules:

1. If a person is taller than you, you must bow to say hello.
2. Men nod their heads to greet another man.
3. Women shake hands when they meet each other.
4. Laughing is considered rude.
5. Eye contact is usually avoided.

Talking point 8 *Tech talk*



Do computers really save time and make life more convenient?

How has technology improved our lives? How has it made life worse?

**Has technology made the world safer or more dangerous?
Why do you think so?**

**Can a person be successful without knowing how to use a computer?
Why or why not?**

How has the Internet changed your life?

How has technology affected transportation?

What invention has had the greatest positive effect on the world? Why do you think so?

What two inventions have changed your life the most?

How has technology affected entertainment?

How has technology affected education?

Do people today rely too much on technology? Why or why not?

What invention has had the greatest negative effect on the world? Why do you think so?

Talking point 9 *What's the best way to . . . ?*

What's the best way to . . . ?	Classmate / Advice
keep feeling young	
get a good night's sleep	
cure a cold naturally	
avoid feeling nervous when speaking in front of a group	
be happy	
relax before a test	
keep calm when speaking English	
stay awake on the subway	
avoid stress when you're stuck in traffic	
help a friend stay healthy	

Talking point 10 *I'll buy that!*



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

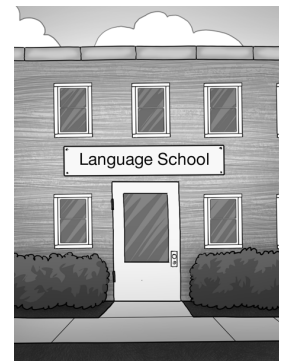
Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

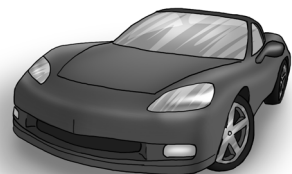
Slogan:



Product name:

Selling points:

Slogan:



Talking point 11 *Press conference*



A. Bear Cools Off in Family's Swimming Pool



B. Pop Star and Husband Divorce After Only 36 Hours of Marriage



C. Newlyweds Claim They Were Kidnapped by Aliens While on Honeymoon

Talking point 12 *Making new friends*

Looking for adventure!

I'm 25, sincere, generous, and warmhearted. I'm tall, with brown hair and blue eyes. I'm easygoing and outgoing, and I love staying healthy. I play lots of sports, enjoy traveling, and I love animals and music. I hope to meet an adventurous person, 20–30 years old, intelligent, but not too serious. You must be adventurous and love animals. If you have these qualities, please reply to Box #555.

Looking for the perfect partner!

I'm considerate, kind, and a bit shy. I'm slim, with blonde hair and brown eyes. I really enjoy evenings at home with good food and good conversation. I also like to watch movies and read books. I'm looking for someone who's as conventional and as practical as I am. You must be employed, professional, 25–35 years old, serious, and quiet. Could it be you? Reply to Box 820.

1. What three adjectives would you use to describe your physical appearance?
2. What three adjectives would you use to describe your personality?
3. What are your hobbies and interests?
4. What physical characteristics are you looking for in a partner?
5. What five personality traits are most important to you in a partner?
6. Your own question: _____

Talking point 13 *What a terrible trip!*

Emily had always wanted to travel to _____. She heard that this place was a risky place to go. In fact, one of Emily's classmates who went there said, "_____."

After she graduated from college, Emily worked hard, saved money, and planned her trip. Finally she was ready to go, and she was feeling _____.

From the beginning, there were problems. The night before the trip, Emily _____
_____. Then, when she arrived at the airport, she
_____. She finally got on the plane, but then she realized
_____.

When she landed late at the airport, _____. She got into a taxi and _____.

The hotel was _____ and _____.

In the morning, when Emily was reading her guide book, she realized that
_____. She almost started to cry. This was a big problem, and she didn't know what to do! But this was her first big adventure, so she decided to take action and

_____.

In the end, _____
_____.

Now Emily's advice to travelers is _____
_____.

Talking point 14 *How happy are you?*

Who are the happiest people in the world?

According to a survey from the global market research company GfK NOP, Australians are the happiest people in the world. In the survey, the company interviewed 30,000 people ages 13 and older in 30 different countries. The survey asked people to rate their levels of happiness, and to say what is most important to them in life. Forty-six percent of Australians said they were “very happy,” followed by the U.S. at 40%. Third and fourth on the list were Egypt (36%), and India (34%). The U.K. and Canada came in fifth with 32% of the population saying they are “very happy.”

The study reported that Hungary is the least happy country, with 35% of the people surveyed saying they are either “disappointed” or “very unhappy,” followed by Russia (30%), Turkey (28%), South Africa (25%), and Poland (24%).

The main factors shown to affect people's happiness were age and financial status. Across the globe, teenagers are the happiest people. The least happy people are ages 50–59, with only 16% reporting that they were very happy. Happier people tended to be professionals with full-time jobs, while unhappy people had lower incomes or were unemployed.

The research found that people around the world have common attitudes about what makes them happy. Good health, owning a home, and having children topped the list of factors contributing to a good life, while expensive clothing, cars, and gadgets ranked low.

Source: www.prnewswire.com

1. What did you find interesting about this article?
2. What surprised you about the study?
3. Do you think age and money are linked to personal happiness? Why or why not?
4. How happy do you think the people in your country are? What do you think makes them happy or unhappy?
5. How would you rate your own level of happiness?
6. What makes you particularly happy or unhappy?
7. What three factors do you think are most important for having a happy life?

Talking point 15 *The joy of travel*



The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.

– St. Augustine

We do not take a trip; a trip takes us.

– John Steinbeck

Every exit is an entrance to somewhere else.

– Tom Stoppard

One time seen is better than one hundred times heard about.

– Czech saying

Travel makes you wiser but less happy.

– Thomas Jefferson

Take only memories, leave only footprints.

– Chief Seattle

Follow your bliss.

– Joseph Campbell

Not all those who wander are lost.

– J. R. R. Tolkien

I dislike feeling at home when I'm abroad.

– George Bernard Shaw

A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving.

– Lao Tzu

When preparing to travel, lay out all your clothes and all your money. Then take half the clothes and twice the money.

– Susan Heller

No one realizes how beautiful it is to travel until he comes home and rests his head on his old, familiar pillow.

– Lin Yutang

Talking point 16 *Help wanted*

Manager cards



JOB: Web-page designer

Skills needed:

Questions	Candidate 1	Candidate 2	Candidate 3
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



JOB: Firefighter

Skills needed:

Questions	Candidate 1	Candidate 2	Candidate 3
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Candidate card



JOB: Web-page designer

Related skills: _____

Questions about the job: _____

JOB: Firefighter

Related skills: _____

Questions about the job: _____
