

IDEAS FOR INITIATING SOCIAL CONVERSATIONS

All social spoken language comes down to...

QUESTIONS

and COMMENTS

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QUESTIONS

Asking questions of others tends to show you are interested in their experiences, points of view, or interests.

Questions often kick off with who, what, when, where, why, and how. For example...

Who's going to be around during the holidays?

What are you doing this weekend?

When is the best time to talk to my teacher about my grade?

It's important not to ask someone too many questions all at once, otherwise they may start to wonder why you want to know so much about them.

COMMENTS

When you make comments you can explore a variety of topics. Sometimes people talk about one thing for a while, and other times the topic can change quite quickly.

These comments can include...

Things you saw, did, or thought about in the last few days may be of interest to others

Things you heard about in news or in pop culture

Things you recall doing with this person

Positive things you heard about or saw (artwork, athleticism, etc.) that this person did or contributed to

Things you are going to do based on the specific date or season (e.g., Thanksgiving, December holidays, summer, etc)

Stay alert to avoid getting stuck on a specific topic—the goal in a social conversation is to relate to what each other is saying, rather than solely telling people what's on your mind.