

Small Talk

« Upper-Intermediate »

GOAL

Don't be afraid of making Small Talk.

- What Is Small Talk?

Small talk is a friendly conversation between people who have just met or don't know each other very well.

● Discussion

1. In your opinion, what is a good conversation starter?
2. What would you do if you were asked an uncomfortable question?
3. Do you think small talk is necessary? Why or why not?

● What Is Small Talk?

Small talk is a friendly conversation between people who have just met or don't know each other very well.

Love it or hate it, it's an important and useful social skill.

● Making Small Talk

Dialog : Asking questions related to the person

Situation: You're meeting a customer from Chicago at your office in Japan.

You : What's the weather like in Chicago at this time of a year?

Customer: Oh, It's much colder than here. Everything freezes.

You: Is that right? How do you survive the cold?

Customer: With lots of warm clothes. I hear Japan is quite humid in the summer.

You: Yes, especially after the typhoon season in June.

● Making Small Talk

Practice

Practice each sentence. Make your own sentences using the bold-faced phrases.

1. A: **How's business** in Seoul?

B: It's pretty good, actually.

2. A: **Do you like** watching baseball?

B: Not really, but my son is a big fan of Shohei Otani.

● Making Small Talk 1

Class or Pair Work

Let's make small talk related to the people in class.

The instructor gives some small talk topics.

Keep the conversation going with the partner or the class without stopping more than 10 seconds.

● Making Small Talk 2

Class or Pair Work

Think of your own small talk topics and practice with the class and the instructor

Each person must ask some questions to keep the conversation moving without stopping more than 20 seconds!

GOAL

Don't be afraid of making Small Talk.

Let's enjoy it !