

Conversation Skills

Starting Conversations:

Saying hello and **introducing yourself** to someone is a great way to start a conversation. It can also be helpful to **make a comment about something that is happening around you** or about something in your current surroundings.

If you notice a classmate with a nice shirt or a cool phone case, you can **complement them**; “Hey, I really like your shirt”

If you would like to talk to someone in your class, you could ask them, “Hey, what did you think about the homework last night?”

Holding Conversations:

When answering questions, it’s good to **give answers that have some details**. That way, your conversation partner has something to respond to. But if your answer has too many details, and you are talking for a long time, your conversation partner may find it harder to respond to you.

If you realize that you have been talking a lot more than your conversation partner, you may want to pause and **give them space to respond**.

It’s helpful to ask people questions about themselves or about things they might be **interested in**. If you share something about yourself, try asking others a similar question. If you tell someone about your dog, you might want to ask them if they have any pets.