

Making Small Talk and Starting Conversations

Pre-Intermediate (A2-B1)



WARM UP

Part 1. Discuss the following questions.

1. How's your week going so far?
2. Did you do anything interesting over the weekend?
3. What hobbies or activities do you enjoy in your free time?
4. Have you tried anything new recently?



DIALOGUE ACTIVITY

Part 1. Read the dialogue. Underline all phrases used to open the conversation, ask questions, share brief experiences or opinions, and close or transition politely.

A: Hi! How's your week going?

B: Pretty good, thanks. I went hiking on Saturday.

A: That sounds fun! Where did you go?

B: I went to the nearby hill trail. I enjoy walking there because it's peaceful. How about you? Did you do anything over the weekend?

A: I tried a new healthy recipe. It was interesting. Have you ever cooked that dish?

B: No, I haven't, but I'd like to try. What did you think of it?

A: I think it's a great way to eat more vegetables. Well, it was nice talking about this. I should get back to work, but let's chat again soon.

B: Sure. Enjoy your day!



GAP-FILL

Part 1. Complete the dialogue with the correct forms of the phrases in the box.

I enjoy....

Hi! How's your week going?

I think...

Did you do anything over the weekend?

I went...

Have you ever...?

I should get back to work, but let's chat again soon.

Enjoy your day!

What did you think of it?

I tried...

I went to...

How about you?

Where did you go?

It was nice talking about...

A: _____ (1)

B: Pretty good, thanks. _____ (2) hiking on Saturday.

A: That sounds fun! _____ (3)

B: _____ (4) the nearby hill trail. _____ (5) walking there because it's peaceful.
_____ (6) _____ (7)

A: _____ (8) a new healthy recipe. It was interesting. _____ (9) cooked that dish?

B: No, I haven't, but I'd like to try. _____ (10)

A: _____ (11) it's a great way to eat more vegetables. Well, _____ (12) this.
_____ (13)

B: Sure. _____ (14)



SPEAKING PRACTICE: ROLE PLAY

Part 1. In pairs, use the Role-Card below and the language from Steps 2–4. Then swap roles.

I enjoy....

Hi! How's your week going?

I think...

Did you do anything over the weekend?

I went...

Have you ever...?

I should get back to work, but let's chat again soon.

Enjoy your day!

What did you think of it?

I tried...

I went to...

How about you?

Where did you go?

It was nice talking about...

Role-Card A: Begin a conversation by asking about the partner's week or recent activities. After they respond, ask a follow-up question and share a brief related experience or opinion. Close politely when the conversation naturally winds down.

Role-Card B: Answer the starter's questions and ask a follow-up in return. Share a brief experience or opinion and respond to closing remarks appropriately.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Part 1. Write/say 3–5 sentences about a recent small talk you had or one you'd like to start. For example, how you might begin a chat with a classmate or colleague. Use at least three different phrases from today's lesson.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.