

When someone starts a conversation with you, you are supposed to take your conversation

turn in a way that keeps the conversation going. You should say something about what the person said. Stay on the same topic and say at least one sentence.

Pretend a friend started each conversation below with you. Write or tell what you could say to keep the conversation going.

1. Hi! I just heard about the fire in your neighborhood. What happened?
2. Hey, what's up? I can't believe we have another science test next week.
3. Hi! I just heard the good news that you won the election. Congratulations!
4. Hey there! Someone told me you're learning to play the guitar.

# Conversation Balance

Like dance partners, conversation partners each need to take responsibility for having a good conversation. Each partner should talk about half the time and listen about half the time.

Read the conversation below and answer the questions.

Partner 1: That was a great game on Saturday.

Partner 2: Yes, it was. I had a lot of fun. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well.

Partner 1: Yes, I did.

Partner 2: I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well.

1. Did both partners try to make this a good conversation?  yes  no

2. Which partner tried hardest to keep the conversation going?

Partner 1: I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well.

Partner 2: I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well. I was a little out of sync, but I think we did pretty well.

## Staying on topic

Each time in a conversation, the other person says something that is not related to the topic. Write a comment that stays on topic.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

Write + before each comment that relates to what the other person just said. Write - for comments that do not relate to what the other person just said.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

## Staying on Topic 2

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Play this game to practice staying on topic in a conversation. Sit or stand in a circle and decide who will go first. That person reads one of the conversation starters below. Play passes to the person's left; each person adds a comment related to the previous person's comment. See how long you can keep the conversation going.

1. Jason couldn't unlock his front door yesterday when he went home.
2. We watched a great movie last night.
3. Everybody is talking about the weather.
4. I don't know what I want to do when I get out of school.
5. There are good things and bad things about having a puppy.
6. It can be risky to write what you really think.
7. Did you hear about the new contest? The city is awarding a prize for the best ideas for a new park.
8. Some people think birds are related to dinosaurs.
9. I don't really want to babysit for toddlers.

10. The school band needs new uniforms.

11. We need to raise money for better sports equipment.

12. I can't believe how much it costs to see a movie in a theater.  
For extra challenge, use a large ball to signal who will speak next. Each

13. speaker tosses the ball to someone to make the next comment.  
We should have more food choices for lunch.

14. I wish I had more free time.

Spotlight on Social Skills Adolescent

15. I'd like to go to Germany as a foreign exchange student