

A Guide to Small Talk - Conversation Starters and Replies

Are you unsure how to start a conversation in different social situations? Our guide to small talk has some conversation starters and replies in different settings that can provide you with excellent material for discussion.

The chart is small enough to print out and bring it with you for reference if needed.

Situations	Conversation Starters
Workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “How was your commute in this morning?” ▪ “Do you have any ideas to help kick off this project?” ▪ “What are your priority tasks that need attention right now?” ▪ “Is there anything I can do to help you with _____ project?” ▪ “I could really use your input/advice on _____ project.”
At a party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “How do you know (host’s name)?” ▪ “Are you enjoying yourself?” ▪ “I really like your outfit. Where did you get it?” ▪ “This music is interesting. What kind of music do you usually listen to?” ▪ “Let’s head over to the food/drink table.”
One on One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “How are you doing?” ▪ “Are you enjoying your day/week?” ▪ “How did you get involved in (activity).” ▪ “The weather is _____ today.” ▪ “What are you up to today?” ▪ “Hope you’re staying safe and well.”
Replies (all settings) **NOTE: Make sure you are listening carefully to ensure these are applicable to the conversation topic*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “That’s good.” ▪ “Really?” ▪ “That sounds interesting.” ▪ “Thanks for the feedback/insight.” ▪ “Good, glad to hear it.” ▪ “Wow.”