

Live Lesson Notes

Socialising

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What you will learn in this worksheet:

Useful links
Useful socialising vocabulary
Socialising at work
Small talk
Developing conversations
Idioms to talk about socialising

Useful Links

Link to Band 7+ _course

<https://keith-speaking-academy.teachable.com/p/ielts-speaking-success-get-a-band-7>

How to make friends at work

<https://www.businessnewsdaily.com/8200-making-work-friends.html>

Dale Carnegie's book

<https://www.amazon.com/How-Win-Friends-Influence-People/dp/0671027034>

Getting a friendship coach

<https://www.nbcnews.com/better/lifestyle/i-hired-friendship-coach-help-me-make-friends-here-s-ncna1141571>



Join The Library

<https://keith-speaking-academy.teachable.com/p/the-library>

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.

<https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/>

Use the CODE: **keith10** to get a 10% discount.

Find a teacher on **italki** so you can start practicing all the language you are learning here. Practice is the key!

<https://bit.ly/IELTSSpeakingitalki>

Collect my **free materials** and more lesson plans here
<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-free-live-lessons/>

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<https://www.facebook.com/keithspeakingacademy>

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiVm8XcbwS8-pcDEa5IFXIA>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2TIBRsRvMXcixFxHCf4FaA>

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Socialising

Here are some useful words you need to know to talk confidently about the topic of Socialising.

To socialise (v.) = to meet other people

Socialising (n.)

I don't mind socialising!

Society (n.)

Social (adj. to describe **things**)

- A social worker
- Social benefits
- A social club
- Social media
- Social networks

Sociable (adj. to describe a **person**)

I am a sociable person

*Here are some synonyms for the adjective **sociable***

- friendly
- gregarious = outgoing
- affable / amiable = friendly
- approachable = easy to talk to

Of course, we are not sociable all the time, sometimes we may be in the opposite mood. In this case we may say,

*He's rather **unfriendly**,*

*Here are some synonyms for the adjective **unfriendly***

- solitary = likes to be on their own
- aloof = to be distant (cold)
- cold

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Making Friends

Below we have some useful phrases to talk about meeting new people and making friends.

- To meet new friends
- To make friends
- To get to know someone

*Be careful, an **acquaintance** is not a synonym of friend. An **acquaintance** is someone you know, but is not a friend.*

- I would like to **make** some new **friends**
- I like to **hang out with** friends
- I love to **chit chat with** friends over coffee
- I love to **have a good chit chat** with my friend, Adlay.
- Let's **catch up** soon (make contact, meet and go out)

To **connect** = to get along well

= to **click** with someone

= to get on like a house on fire

We really **connected**!

Finally here are some informal ways to say 'to visit a friend'

Pop over

Pop by

Drop in

Drop by

Stop in

Stop by

Swing by

Why don't you pop over tomorrow for a coffee?

Can I drop by tomorrow morning to have a chat?

Swing by anytime, I am always happy to catch up.

IELTS Speaking Topic: Socialising at work or university

Socialising and meeting new people is a key part of both university life and also working life. In this section, we will see some phrases and collocations you can use to discuss this topic.

To **make contacts** = to meet people because they can be useful

To **build relationships with** people

Build a **connection with** someone

To **network** (v.) (at a party or an event) = to meet people for work reasons

To **mingle** (v.) (at a party or an event) = to chat informally to people

There is a famous book by Dale Carnegie all about making friends and influencing people. Here are some of the main pieces of advice he gives about how to successfully make friends.

- Be helpful
- Listen
- Don't complain
- Build rapport = *having the same emotion, being on the same page*
- Smile
- Remember names

Find out more in Dale's book, it is well worth reading.

<https://www.amazon.com/How-Win-Friends-Influence-People/dp/0671027034>

IELTS Speaking Topic: Small Talk

When we meet people and talk about unimportant things, usually to break the ice and just start a conversation, this is called small talk.

*When meeting someone new, it's a way of finding **common ground** (= find something you have in common).*

What do you talk about when you meet new people in your country?

Depending on the country and culture, certain topics maybe very popular, and others maybe taboo (=a topic you must not talk about). Here are some common topics and taboos for many British people.

Popular Small Talk

- Weather
- Sport
- Food
- Work
- Hobbies
- Travel

Small Talk to Be careful with

- Family
- Religion
- Politics
- Age
- Salary

English Speaking Tips: Developing Conversations

Often in real life, as well as in IELTS, we don't know how to keep a conversation going. We run out of ideas or just don't know what it is appropriate to talk about.

Here are some tips and language to help you develop conversations in English.

Listening and Encouraging Others

Say the following to encourage the other person to keep talking:

- Tell me more
- Uh huh
- Really
- No way
- That's interesting

When you don't really understand

1) Be **open** and say,

I didn't quite understand, can you repeat that?

2) Be **native** and say,

I don't really follow...(silence)

I don't fully get it, can you explain that again?

What do you mean exactly?

Winding up - Finishing the Conversation

Anyway...

- It has been nice meeting you
- It's been nice chatting

- I'll let you get on
- I don't want to keep you
- I need to **make a move** (=leave)
- I'm off, catch you later
- I need to run

IELTS Speaking Idioms about Socialising

To **break the ice** = to start a conversation easily, help people relax

When I meet people at a party I never know how to break the ice!

A **fair-weather friend** = a friend only when times are good

Jack didn't help me at all when I was in trouble. I realised he is just a fair-weather friend

To **chew the fat** = to chit chat informally

Let's go for a coffee and chew the fat

To **be a moaning Minnie** (=someone who always complains)

Don't be a moaning Minnie

To **give someone the time of day** = to give someone your time and to listen to them.

My boss just doesn't give me the time of day