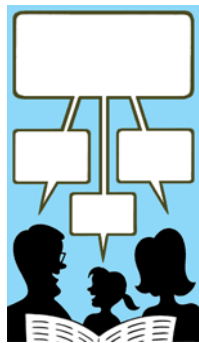


VI9

Tea Talk and chitchatting

BEGINNER



HELPFUL TIPS:

When you want some conversation starters that work it is often best to use time proven conversation starters such as:

- the weather
- local news
- workplace changes
- family happenings
- sports results

IDIOMS:

Under the weather

If you are feeling a bit ill, sad or lack energy, you are under the weather.

When it rains, it pours

This idiom means that when things go wrong, a lot of things go wrong at the same time.

Finding conversation starters that work is then a game of testing to see which topics get the interest of the person you are talking to.

1. What's your favorite book? Who is your favorite author?
2. If you could live in any home on a television series, what would it be?
3. What's the longest you've gone without sleep?
4. What's your favorite Barry Manilow song?
5. Who's your favorite Muppet?
6. What's the habit you're proudest of breaking?
7. What's your favorite Web site?
8. What's your favorite school supply?
9. Who's your favorite TV attorney?
10. What was your most recent trip of more than 50 miles?

INTERMEDIATE



HELPFUL TIPS:

When you want some conversation starters that work it is often best to use time proven conversation starters such as:

- the weather
- local news
- workplace changes
- family happenings
- sports results

IDIOMS:
indeed.

Head is in the clouds

If a person has their head in the clouds, they have unrealistic, impractical ideas.

Hit rough weather

If you hit rough weather, you experience difficulties or problems.

In a fog

If you're in a fog, you are confused, dazed or unaware.

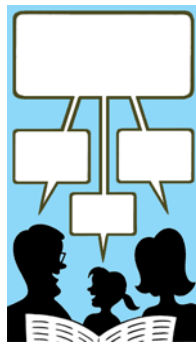
Finding conversation starters that work is then a game of testing to see which topics get the interest of the person you are talking to.

What's the best bargain you've ever found at a garage sale or thrift store?

1. Where were you on September 11, 2001?
2. What's your favorite tree?
3. What's the most interesting biography you've read?
4. What do you order when you eat Chinese food?
5. What's the best costume you've ever worn?
6. What's your least favorite word?
7. If you had to be named after one of the 50 states, which would it be?

8. Who's your favorite Care Bear?
9. Describe something that's happened to you for which you have no explanation.
10. If you could travel anywhere in Africa, where would it be?
11. What did you have for lunch yesterday?
12. Where do you go for advice?
13. Which do you use more often, the dictionary or the thesaurus?
14. Have you ever been snorkeling? Scuba diving?
15. Have you ever been stung by a bee?
16. What's the sickest you've ever been?

ADVANCED



HELPFUL TIPS:

When you want some conversation starters that work it is often best to use time proven conversation starters such as:

- the weather
- local news
- workplace changes
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- sports results

IDIOMS:

Any port in a storm

This means that in an emergency any solution will do, even one that would normally be unacceptable.

Bolt from the blue

If something happens unexpectedly and suddenly, it is a bolt from the blue.

Finding conversation starters that work is then a game of testing to see which topics get the interest of the person you are talking to.

What's your favorite form of exercise?

1. What's your favorite Cyndi Lauper song?
2. What did you do for your 13th birthday?
3. Are you afraid of heights?
4. Have you ever taken dance lessons?
5. What's your favorite newspaper?

6. What's your favorite Broadway musical?
7. What's the most memorable class you've ever taken?
8. What's your favorite knock-knock joke?
9. What's your favorite commercial?
10. If you could go to Disney World with any celebrity alive today, who would it be?
11. Do you prefer baths or showers?
12. Does your chewing gum lose its flavor on the bedpost overnight?
13. What's your favorite breakfast food?
14. Who's your favorite game show host?
15. If you could have a super power, what would it be?
16. Do you like guacamole?
17. Have you ever been in a food fight?
18. Name five songs to which you know all the lyrics. (Better yet, sing them.)
19. What's your favorite infomercial?
20. What's the longest you've ever waited in line?
21. Have you ever taken a picture in one of those little booths?