

Greetings

How are you?
How have you been?
How are things?
How's life been treating you?
How's it going?

Responses to Greetings

Very well, thank you.
Fine. And you?
Great. And yourself?
Couldn't be better. How about you?
Pretty good.
Can't complain.
Not (too) bad.
I've been worse.
Not very well. What's **wrong / the matter** ?
I've been better. Is anything **wrong / bothering** you?
Meh. What's on your mind?

Ending the Conversation and Responses

It was a pleasure talking to you. The pleasure was all mine.
I enjoyed **our conversation / talking to you**. (It was) my pleasure. Same here.
I'll see you **tomorrow / next week / after school**. I'll see you then.
Good-bye.
Bye.
See you **around / later / then**. Sure thing.
I'll see you when I see you. Yup!
See you / See ya'!

Well Wishes

Have a **nice day / pleasant evening / safe trip / good weekend**.
Enjoy your **flight / stay / tour**.
Good luck to you.

Responses to Well Wishes

Thank you. You, too. Thank you. I will.
Same to you. Likewise.

Openers

Excuse me, is this seat taken?
Sorry to bother you, but do you have the time?
Would you happen to know if there's a **cafe / bank / grocery store** near here?
Nice / beautiful day, isn't it?
This is a great **hotel / park / party**, isn't it?
I can't believe how busy this **store / airport** is today!
Hey, I love your **shirt / hat / dog** !
Hi! I don't think we've met.
Hi, I didn't catch your name...

Indirect openers test to see if a person is interested in talking.
Direct openers start conversation in a friendly and open way.

Self Introduction

May I introduce myself?
Let / Allow me to introduce myself.
By the way, I'm ~
Remember to *shake hands*!

Ice Breakers - Reason for Visiting

Is this your first time to **[Tokyo]**?
Have you been to **[Japan]** before?
Are you here on business?
Have you seen much of the **city / country**?
How long have you been here?
How long are you planning to stay?
How do you like it here so far?
"YES or NO Questions" are a good way to start polite conversation.

Ice Breakers - Personal Information

Where are you from?
What part of **[country]** do you live in?
Are you traveling alone or with **family / friends**?
Do you like **music / theater / art / sports** ?
What do you do for a living?
What kind of business are you in?

Before a *personal question*, it is polite to say:
"If you don't mind me asking..."
"If I may I ask..."