Getting Started with WUPA



Buddy Guideline





Rules You Need To Know

- You should meet your buddy for at least 4 times within 3 months
- We will set up a WhatsApp group or Skype chat room with you and your buddy
- You will come up with 4 tentative meeting dates with your buddy, and tell us in the group
- After each of the 4 required meetings, one of you should post a screenshot in the group proving you two have met online
- You can always chat with your buddy elsewhere outside the group
- After you have completed the feedback survey which we will send you later, you can ask to pair with more buddies

Tell us here: lockdownloungeint.typeform.com/to/pZAZcp



We definitely won't interfere with what you talk about with your buddy, but we're sure you understand the basics — be nice, respect cultures and religions, no sexual or indecent contents, celebrate differences etc. Any form of illegal, hateful, harassing, violent, and bullying behaviors is prohibited. If anything happens, you are welcome to talk to us. Enjoy!



Online Meeting Etiquette

- Be on time
- Wear a smile
- Check your audio and video settings beforehand
- Make sure your buddy can hear you and understand you. If your buddy is a nonnative speaker, observe and adjust your speed by putting pauses between phrases.
- Be alert on cultural differences. For example, questioning or challenging a person elder than you might be considered rude.
- Be aware of time zone differences.
 www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html
- Protect your sensitive information
- Be open-minded
- Show respect for others

Emotional Support

If buddies need any help, our social worker in the team is ready to reach out to support. Please contact us or relevant staff members who have been in touch with you. The service is free of charge. Please refer to our Terms of Service for more information.





FΔO

1. Can I change my buddy?

Yes, but there is a better option because we can pair you up with one more buddy. Fill out the form on our website. If you want to change your buddy, we want to understand your situation better so please contact us. We might arrange a call with you.

2. Can me and my friend have the same buddy?

Yes! If you and your friends want to be paired with the same buddy so you all can chat together, it works too! Contact us through our website.

3. What if my buddy is not responding?

Contact us if that is the case. We will sort it out. Yet we know that different people take a different amount of time to respond to messages. We think it is usually ok if it is within 2-3 days.

Conversation Starters

General interest

- 1. What are your hobbies?
- 2. What's your favorite movie genre?
- 3. Which is your favorite book?
- 4. Do you like traveling?
- 5. What's your favorite country to travel?
- 6. Which project/activity did you spend the most time on this year?
- 7. Why did you join this programme?

School life/Education

- 1. What was your favorite subject in school? Why?
- 2. What was your least favorite subject in school? Why?
- 3. Looking back, what subjects do you wish you'd studied?
- 4. Do you value university education? Why or why not?
- 5. What is the best/worst thing about your school?
- 6. Do you have roommates? What are the best and worst things about having them



Language

- 1. How many languages do you speak?
- 2. What languages would you love to learn?
- 3. What languages do you think would be hardest to learn?
- 4. Can you imitate different accents?

Culture

- 1. What are some fun facts about your city/country?
- 2. What sort of stories did your parents tell you when you were little?
- 3. How important are good manners?
- 4. What sort of things do you need to do to be considered polite?
- 5. How do you greet strangers?
- 6. How do you greet your friends and family?

Food

- 1. What's your favorite food?
- 2. Can you introduce me to some iconic dishes in your culture?
- 3. Do you like cooking? What's your favorite dish to / make? How do you make it?
- 4. What are the foods that you hate?
- 5. What sort of food would you most like to try?

Economics

- 1. What's a comfortable wage in your country?
- 2. How much does an apartment/house cost?

Religion

- 1. What religion is most common where you live?
- 2. What other religions are practiced where you live?
- 3. How is religion viewed where you live?

Weather

- What sort of bad weather do you have?
 (e.g. blizzards, thunderstorms, monsoons, tornadoes, tsunamis, droughts, etc.)
- 2. What's your climate like?



Fun/Inspiring Questions

- 1. What are your passions?
- 2. What do you dream about?
- 3. Who do you admire?
- 4. If you could learn the answer to one question about your future, what would the question be?
- 5. If you opened a business, what kind of business would it be?
- 6. Given the choice of anyone in the world, whom would you want as a dinner guest?
- 7. If you were able to live to the age of 90 and retain either the mind or body of a 30-year-old, which would you want?

- 8. If a crystal ball could tell you the truth about yourself, your life, or anything else, what would you want to know?
- 9. Your house, containing everything you own, catches fire. After saving your loved ones and pets, you have time to safely make a final dash to save any one item. What would it be? Why?
- 10. Would you like to be famous? In what way?
- 11. What is the best superpower one could have?