

HOW TO CONTINUE A CONVERSATION IN ENGLISH



(fonte: Freepik)

What you will find in this class:

1. KEYS TO CONTINUING A CONVERSATION IN ENGLISH
2. KEYS FOR ENDING A CONVERSATION IN ENGLISH
3. BUILDING VOCABULARY
4. PRACTISE – CONVERSATION QUESTIONS MOVIES

In this lesson, you will learn how to keep a conversation going, without running out of things to say! Here's an example of how **not** to have an English conversation:

"Did you have a good weekend?"

"Yes, I did. And you?"

"Yeah."

Unfortunately, the conversation stops here because there's no natural way to continue it. This is OK if you only want to have a quick conversation (for example, if you are quickly passing a co-worker in the hallway). But how can you have a longer conversation in English?

Infelizmente, a conversa para aqui porque não há uma maneira natural de continuar. Tudo bem se você quiser apenas ter uma conversa rápida (por exemplo, se estiver passando rapidamente por um colega de trabalho no corredor). Mas como você pode ter uma conversa mais longa em inglês?

KEYS TO CONTINUING A CONVERSATION IN ENGLISH **(CHAVES PARA CONTINUAR UMA CONVERSA EM INGLÊS)**

- a) Ask questions that start with Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How. Try to avoid yes/no questions.
- b) In each of your answers, give one or two details that will help continue the conversation. You don't need to talk for a long time.
- c) Talk about these topics:

- ☐ Family
- ☐ Interests/Hobbies
- ☐ Sports
- ☐ TV, movies, and popular culture
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Current events
- ☐ Interesting places in the city
- ☐ Travel

Unless the other person is a very good friend of yours, avoid topics like politics, religion, sex life, health problems, and personal finances.

a) Faça perguntas que começam com Quem, O quê, Quando, Onde, Por que e Como. Tente evitar perguntas do tipo sim / não.

b) Em cada uma de suas respostas, dê um ou dois detalhes que ajudarão a continuar a conversa. Você não precisa falar por muito tempo.

c) Fale sobre estes tópicos:

Família

Interesses / Hobbies

Esportes

TV, filmes e cultura popular

Música
Eventos atuais
Lugares interessantes na cidade
Viagem

A menos que a outra pessoa seja um bom amigo seu, evite tópicos como política, religião, vida sexual, problemas de saúde e finanças pessoais.

Example English Conversations

Here are two example conversations – notice how each person adds one or two details, and then there is a follow-up question about the details.

Conversation 1:

“Hey, how was your weekend?”

“Pretty good! I went to a baseball game with my brother.”

“Really? Who was playing?”

“The Yankees and the Red Sox. We’re huge Yankees fans!”

“Yeah? How was the game?”

“Very exciting – it was tied until the last inning, when we won 2-1.”

“Haha, that’s great! I can’t say I’m a baseball fan, myself – I prefer basketball.”

“Basketball, huh? Playing or watching?”

“Both – I’ve played basketball since I was a kid.”

“No kidding! You must be really good.”

“Well, I just play for fun. It’s a great workout.”

“I bet. I could use more exercise myself, but I don’t think I’m cut out for basketball. I was thinking of joining a martial arts class...”

“That sounds interesting! Which one?”

"Ei, como foi seu fim de semana?"

"Muito bom! Fui a um jogo de beisebol com meu irmão. "

"Mesmo? Quem estava jogando? "

"Os Yankees e os Red Sox. Somos grandes fãs dos Yankees! "

"Sim? Como foi o jogo?"

"Muito emocionante - estava empatado até a última entrada, quando vencemos por 2-1."

"Haha, isso é ótimo! Eu não posso dizer que sou um fã de beisebol - eu prefiro basquete. "

"Basquete, hein? Jogando ou assistindo? "

"Ambos - jogo basquete desde criança."

"Sem brincadeiras! Você deve ser muito bom. "

"Bem, eu só jogo para me divertir. É um ótimo treino. "

"Eu aposto. Eu poderia me exercitar mais, mas não acho que fui feito para o basquete. Eu estava pensando em entrar em uma aula de artes marciais ... "

"Isso parece interessante! Qual deles?"

Conversation 2:

"What a beautiful day! It feels like summer!"

"Sure does! I can't wait for the summer – we're taking a big family vacation in June."

"Oh? Where are you going?"

"We're going to Colorado for a month of hiking and camping. Have you ever been there?"

"Yes, I've actually been to Denver twice on business trips... but they didn't involve any hiking!"

"Haha. How about you – any special plans for the summer?"

"No, not really. I'll probably take a few weekend trips to visit friends, but I'm saving up my vacation time for December, when I'm going to Costa Rica."

"Wow! Why Costa Rica?"

"Well, my best friend from college lives there now – she owns a hotel, and she invited me to spend a couple of weeks there to escape the cold winter weather."

"How wonderful! Do you speak any Spanish?"

"Barely any – only what I remember from classes in high school..."

"Que dia lindo! Parece verão! "

"Com certeza! Mal posso esperar pelo verão - vamos tirar grandes férias com a família em junho. "

"Oh? Onde você está indo?"

"Estamos indo para o Colorado para um mês de caminhadas e acampamentos. Você já esteve lá?"

"Sim, na verdade eu já estive em Denver duas vezes em viagens de negócios ... mas elas não envolviam nenhuma caminhada!"

"Haha. E você - algum plano especial para o verão? "

"Não, na verdade não. Provavelmente farei algumas viagens de fim de semana para visitar amigos, mas estou economizando meu tempo de férias para dezembro, quando irei para a Costa Rica ".

"Uau! Por que a Costa Rica? "

"Bem, minha melhor amiga da faculdade mora lá agora - ela é proprietária de um hotel e me convidou para passar algumas semanas lá para escapar do frio do inverno."

"Que maravilha! Você fala espanhol? "

"Quase nada - apenas o que eu me lembro das aulas no colégio ..."

How To End A Conversation In English

KEYS FOR ENDING A CONVERSATION IN ENGLISH

1. SMILE! Be friendly when ending the conversation, so the other person knows you enjoyed the conversation – and doesn't think you're ending the conversation because you're annoyed.
2. Make a positive comment, then say you need to go, or give a reason for ending the conversation.

ENDING AN INFORMAL CONVERSATION:

Conversation 1:

"Hey, it was nice talking to you, but I've gotta run."

"OK, no problem. Have a good one!"

“You too – bye!”

“I’ve gotta run” is an informal expression to say “I need to go.”

Conversation 2:

“Well, I’d love to keep chatting, but I have to head out – my yoga class starts in an hour.”

“Oh, enjoy your class!”

“Thanks! See you later.”

“head out” means “leave” or “go”

Conversation 3:

“Thanks for the book recommendations, I’ll definitely have to check them out. Anyway, I actually need to go pick up my kids from school.”

“All right – take care!”

Notice how all three conversations use a “transitional” word like “Hey,” “Well,” or “Anyway” to introduce the end of the conversation.

ENDING A MORE FORMAL CONVERSATION (AT WORK):

Conversation 1:

“Okay, so I’ll call the distributors while you prepare the contract, and we’ll touch base next week.”

“Sounds like a plan!”

“Great! Have a good afternoon.”

“Thanks, you too. Bye.”

“Bye.”

You can end a conversation at work by giving a summary of the conversation or the next actions to take. This gives the other person a signal that you would like to end the conversation.

“Anyway, I should get back to work.”

“Yeah, me too. See you later.”

“I should get back to work” is a good way to end a conversation with a co-worker that is not related to work – for example, if you are chatting with your colleague about weekend plans or other interests.

“Well, I know you’re busy, so I don’t want to keep you.”

“That’s OK. Nice talking to you.”

“I don’t want to keep you” is a way to say that you respect the other person’s time, so you won’t continue the conversation for hours and hours. This also signals that the conversation is coming to an end. It is often used during phone calls.

DIFFERENT WAYS TO SAY “GOODBYE” IN ENGLISH

Formal or informal:

- a) Bye / Bye-bye
- b) See you soon!
- c) See you later
- d) Take care
- e) Have a good one!
- f) Have a nice day!
- g) So long

Informal only:

- a) Take it easy
- b) Catch ya later / Check ya later
- c) Later!
- d) I’m off / I’m out
- e) Peace / Peace out

QUESTION WORDS



What



Asking about a thing

What is your favorite color?

When



Asking about a time of an event or activity

When do you wake up every day?

Where



Asking about a place

Where can I obtain the book?

Who



Asking about a person (subject)

Who is at the door?

Whom



Asking about a person (object)

Whom is he dating?

Which



Asking about an option or choice

Which is the largest city in the world?

Whose



Asking about ownership

Whose keys are on the kitchen counter?

Why



Asking for a reason

Why do you say that?

How



Asking about a procedure or method

How was your exam?

PRACTISE

Conversation Questions Movies



(fonte: Freepik)

What is your all-time favorite movie?

What is your favorite movie?

Are there any kinds of movies you dislike?

- If so, what kinds?
- Why do you dislike them?

Do you like to watch horror movies?

Do you prefer fiction or nonfiction books? How about movies?

Do you usually watch movies at home or at a movie theater?

What do you think of people who talk during movies at a movie theater?

What is the best movie you have ever seen?

Who was in it?

Why did you like it?

Who was the director?

What is the scariest movies you have ever seen?

What's the funniest?

What's the most romantic?

What is the worst movie you've ever seen?

What was the last movie you saw?

Was it good?

Who did you see it with?

What's the best movie you've ever seen?

Which do you like better, action movies or comedy movies?

What movie star would you most like to meet?

Who is your favorite actor or actress?

What do you think of reality shows?

Do you think that films can be educational?

Is there a movie you could watch over and over again?

Who's your favorite director?

See any good movies lately?

How much does it cost to see a movie in your country?

Do you usually rent DVD's or videos when you rent movies?

What's one of your favorite movies?

What kind of movie is it?

Who's in it?

Who directed it?

Why do you like it?

When did it come out?

Where was it filmed?

How many times have you seen it?

Would you recommend it? Why?

Do you think movies have been developing technology or technology has been developing movies?

What is the most horrible movie you have ever seen?

What kind of movie do you like?

How much do you spend to buy DVD movies?

Are addicted to watching movies?

Do you like to see a movie many times?

Would you like to be an actor/actress? Why or why not?

Do you think action movies are bad for children?

Which do you prefer, to watch movies or to read books?

How much money do you spend when you go to movies?

What do you prefer, animated movies or real movies?

What is your favorite movie soundtrack?

Do you think historical movies are educational?

Do you like documentaries?

Who is your favorite movie hero?

What do you think about comic books movies?

Can you remember the name of the first movie you saw that made you cry?

What is your favorite classical movie?

Which do you prefer, comedy movies or horror movies?

Have you ever watched a movie twice that you disliked?

Do you ever download bootleg movies?

In your country what common courtesies apply when watching a movie at the cinema?

Have you ever seen a movie in another country? Describe the experience.

What movie ratings are enforced in your country?

What does it mean if a movie "bombs"?

Are movie trailers common at the cinema in your country?

Do you like foreign films that are dubbed in your mother tongue or do you like watching the film in its original form?

What kind of movie would you like to star in? Why?

Do you think there should be more movies made in your country?

What is something that you have never seen happen in a movie?

What things happen too often in movies?

What is the name of a boring movie you have seen. Is there a way to make it better?

How would you make a really bad movie?

Which movie star do you think should die today?

Which movie star should live forever?

Which two movie stars would you like to have for your parents

Which famous person would you like to have for a best friend?

How often would you go to the movie theater if you always had free tickets?

Which movie has the best story ? Tell me about it.

Which horror movie is the scariest? Why?

Which actor or actress would be you in a movie about your life?

Do you want your children to be actors or actresses?

How would your life change if you could do TV commercials?

How would you like to clean house for a celebrity?

Would you let a movie crew film in your house?

Would you like to be a movie extra?

Do you think there is too much nudity in movies, or not enough?

Do you think there is too much violence in movies? Does it affect children?

Do you think a movie has to be expensive to make to become a blockbuster? Why?

Why do some people become famous and others don't?

Would you like to be in a television drama?

What kind of character would you like to play in a television drama?

Would you be willing to be on a TV show in only your underwear

What's the scariest movie you've ever seen?

What do you think about eating during movies at a movie theater?

What are the different types/genres of films you can watch?

Which ones do you like?

What kinds of books do you usually read?

Do you usually eat something while you are watching a film at the cinema?

Do you think that films should be more educational?

Do you prefer classic films or westerns?

Do you remember which one it was?

Do you choose a film for the plot/story or the actors?

Do you usually choose which films to watch?

What is the longest film you've ever seen? How many hours was it?

Do you like animated films?

Do you prefer watching films in their original version or in your mother language?

Who holds the remote in your family?

What kind of movie would you like to star in? Why?

Do you think there should be more movies made in your country?

What is something that you have never seen happen in a movie?

What things happen too often in movies?

How would you make a really bad movie?

Which movie star do you think should die today?

Which movie star should live forever?

Which two movie stars would you like to have for parents?

Which famous person would you like to have for a best friend?

How often would you go to the movie theater if you always had free tickets?

Which movie has the best story? Tell me about it.

Which horror movie is the scariest? Why?

Would you be willing to leave your country forever if you could be famous?

What are some problems that famous people have?

Would it be a problem if your sweetheart became famous but you didn't?

Which actor or actress would be you in a movie about your life?

Do you want your children to be actors or actresses?

How would your life change if you could do TV commercials?

Would you like to clean house for a celebrity?

Would you let a movie crew film in your house?

What kind or style of music would it be weird for your parents to listen to? Why?

10 Questions with “Where”

To find a place or thing in an English speaking country use the word “where”:

Here are 10 questions travellers ask:

1. Where is the phone?
2. Where is the bank?
3. Where is the washroom? (also called toilet, bathroom, ladies’ room, mens’ room)
4. Where is the Internet cafe?
5. Where can I get a taxi?
6. Where is the bus stop?
7. Where is the hotel?
8. Where is the doctor’s office? (hospital, walk-in-clinic)
9. Where is the shopping centre?
10. Where can I park? (put the car)

A polite way to ask the same question is:

“Excuse me. Can you tell me where the _____ is?”

OR

“Excuse me. Is there a _____ nearby?”

Tip:

*Don’t worry if you forget the whole sentence. Smile and ask “where” + place or thing.

Tour Guide

- Do you have a question, Sir?
- Yes? (if you see a hand raised)
- Is there something I can help you with?
- I'll try my best to answer your questions.
- I'm afraid I don't have the answer to that. (Sorry I don't know.)
- That's an interesting question.
- I wish I knew the answer. (Sorry, I don't know.)

- Hmm. That's a tough (difficult) question.
- I'll have to look into that further.
- I'll have to ask someone about that.
- Hmm. I've never been asked that before.
- Pardon my English; I don't quite understand your question.
- I'm not sure, but I can find out for you.

Tourist

- Where is the _____ from here?
- How long has _____ been here?
- Where are we headed (going) now?
- What time does _____ stay open until?
- What else is there to do here?
- Which _____ do you recommend?
- Are we allowed to take pictures?
- What's that over there? (tourist points)
- Where's the best place to buy _____?
- My son wants to know if _____? (parent asking a question for shy child)
- Do you know where the nearest washroom is?
- Could you tell us where the nearest bank is?
- You don't happen to have a first-aid kit, do you?

Sample Conversation

Guide: If you have any questions while we're going along, please don't hesitate to ask.

Man: I have a question actually.

Guide: Sure, what's that?

Man: Where's the best place to have dinner around here?

Guide: Well, that's a tough question. There are so many good restaurants. My personal favourite is Spaghetti Alley.

Man: How do we get there?

Guide: I'll point it out when we pass it. It's going to come up on your right in a few minutes.

Woman: My daughter wants to know if we're going to be passing any castles today?

Guide: Castles. No I'm afraid all of the castles are further into the city. We're going to be staying near the coast today. I can give you a map of the city, though. It shows where all of the castles are.

Man: Sorry, I have another question.

Guide: No problem. That's what I'm here for.

Man: Are we allowed to take pictures once we get inside the museum?

Oh, I'm glad you asked that. I forgot to mention that taking photographs inside the art gallery and the museum is prohibited. However, you can take pictures of the grounds and the outside of the buildings. The architecture is beautiful.

Woman: Oh, and what time will we be stopping for lunch?

Guide: We'll break around noon and meet back at the bus at 12:45 sharp.

Ways to Apologise

Sorry.

I'm sorry.

I'm so sorry!

Sorry for your loss. (a person or pet died)

Sorry to hear that. (after someone shares bad news such as a child's illness or a job loss)

I apologise. (you've made an error)

Sorry for keeping you waiting.

Sorry I'm late.

Please forgive me.

Sorry, I didn't mean to do that. (you did something by accident)

Excuse me (you need to get by OR your body released gas)

Pardon me (you need to interrupt OR same as "excuse me")

I owe you an apology. (your mistake happened a while ago)

Slang for "I'm sorry"

My bad (common among teenagers)

Whoops (casual)

Oops, sorry. (casual or sarcastic)

There is a very popular song that uses a common English phrase for a repeated mistake:

"Oops, I did it again."

Note: apologise (British English); apologize (British/American English)

CRÉDITOS

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS FOR THE ESL CLASSROOM

ESPRESSO ENGLISH

ENGLISH CLUB

FREEPIK

LOVE ENGLISH.ORG

VOCABULARY IN USE, CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

REFERÊNCIAS

ENGLISH CLUB, 'How to Shop in English" Disponível em:

<http://edition.englishclub.com/survival/grocery-shopping/>

<https://www.englishclub.com/efl/survival/how-to-shop-in-english/> Acesso em 10 de março de 2021

ESPRESSO ENGLISH <https://www.espressoenglish.net/how-to-end-a-conversation-in-english/>

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