



# Gossip

Conversation > Advanced 7



## Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

<b>gossip</b>	To talk informally about other people's private lives, especially sharing unkind or untrue information.
[verb]	<i>Ex: Sarah loves to <b>gossip</b> when she is drunk.</i>

<b>rumor</b>	A piece of information or a story that people talk about, but that may not be true.
[noun]	<i>Ex: I heard a <b>rumor</b> that we are going to merge with another company.</i>

<b>juicy</b>	Used to describe information that is interesting because it is shocking or exciting.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: Nearly everyone loves a <b>juicy</b> piece of gossip.</i>



<b>face-to-face</b>	Involving close contact between people, directly facing each other.
[adverb]	<i>Ex: The meeting will be the first time that the two leaders meet <b>face-to-face</b>.</i>

<b>validity</b>	The quality of being well-grounded and supported by facts.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Your concerns about this plan have no <b>validity</b>.</i>

<b>drastic</b>	Forceful and extreme.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: The new manager is not expected to make any <b>drastic</b> changes this year.</i>



## Exercise 2 – Dialogue

*Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.*

Samuel: Hey, Joe, have you heard the latest gossip?

Joe: No, what happened, Samuel?

Samuel: Hannah and Eric broke up!

Joe: Again? How many times are they going to break up and get together again?

Samuel: Oh, I think they'll stay broken up this time. I heard a juicy rumor about why it happened.

Joe: Really? What did you hear? Please tell me.

Samuel: Apparently, Eric cheated on Hannah.

Joe: Seriously? I knew Eric could be a jerk sometimes, but I didn't think he would do something like that.



Samuel: I think it's true. Lea told me about it and I believe her.

Joe: You know better than to listen to Lea. She loves to gossip, I've always doubted the validity of her stories.

Samuel: She told me face-to-face and I could tell from the look in her eyes that she was telling the truth.

Joe: You really think so? Poor Hannah. What did she do when she found out?

Samuel: She kicked him out straight away. She even called his mom and told her that he was a dirty cheater.

Joe: Wow, that's drastic. I can understand kicking him out, but the rest is going a little too far.

Samuel: I don't blame her. I'd probably do the same thing if someone cheated on me.

Joe: Hmm... Indeed, it's a tough situation.



## Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

*Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.*

### Answer Pool

juicy  
drastic  
validity  
face-to-face  
gossiping  
rumors

1. No one is questioning the \_\_\_\_\_ of your argument.
2. It would be a \_\_\_\_\_ mistake to argue with this man.
3. I've got some really \_\_\_\_\_ gossip for you.
4. She came \_\_\_\_\_ with her attacker in the courtroom.
5. Spreading \_\_\_\_\_ can be harmful.
6. Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and do your work!



## Exercise 4 – Role Play

*Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.*

**Scene:** There is a rumor going around about you. Explain to your friend Julie why what she's heard isn't true and advise her not to listen to people who love to gossip. The teacher can be Julie.



## Exercise 5 – Discussion

*Discuss the following questions with your tutor.*

1. Do you gossip? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think some people like to gossip?
3. What is the strangest rumor you've ever heard?
4. What effect can gossip have on people?
5. Do you think it's possible to discuss news about other people without gossiping? Why? Why not?