

Beginner ESL Session 1: Conversation Basics

Hello Student!

This session will help you practice:

- Basic English conversations for everyday situations
- Voice patterns (intonation)
- Word stress in English
- Expressing different emotions
- Similar-sounding words
- Reading a short story

Section 1: Conversation Practice

How to do this:

1. Read each conversation phrase
2. Practice saying it clearly and naturally
3. Try using hand gestures or facial expressions

Greeting People

Example: "Hi, my name is [Your Name]. What's your name?" 🙋

Try saying it like:

- "Hello, I'm [Your Name]. Nice to meet you."
- "Good morning! My name is [Your Name]."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Introducing Yourself

Example: "I work at [Workplace]. I am learning English." 🖥️

Try saying it like:

- "I'm a [your job] and I'm studying English."
- "I work in [field/industry] and English is new for me."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Asking for Information

Example: "Could you help me, please?" 🙋

Try saying it like:

- "Excuse me, could you tell me where the [place] is?"
- "I need some information about [topic], please."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Talking About Work

Example: "I work at [Company Name]. I am a [job title]." 💼

Try saying it like:

- "My company is [Company Name]. I work in the [department] department."
- "I've been working as a [job title] for [time period]."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Making Connections

Example: "What do you do in your free time?" 🤝

Try saying it like:

- "What are your interests outside of work?"
- "Do you have any hobbies or activities you enjoy?"

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 2: Voice Patterns Practice

How to do this:

1. Read each sentence out loud
2. Try the different voice patterns (up, down, flat)
3. Check the one that sounds most natural

Hello! How are you today?

Voice pattern: ☐ Rising  ☐ Falling  ☐ Flat →

Usually said with: Rising tone (voice goes up at the end for questions)

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

My name is Maria.

Voice pattern: ☐ Rising  ☐ Falling  ☐ Flat →

Usually said with: Falling tone (voice goes down at the end for statements)

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

That's wonderful news!

Voice pattern: ☐ Rising  ☐ Falling  ☐ Flat →

Usually said with: Rise-Fall (voice goes up for "That's" then down for "news")

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Can you help me with this application?

Voice pattern: ☐ Rising  ☐ Falling  ☐ Flat →

Usually said with: Rising tone (voice goes up at the end for yes/no questions)

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

I have three years of experience.

Voice pattern: ☐ Rising  ☐ Falling  ☐ Flat →

Usually said with: Falling tone (voice goes down at the end for statements)

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 3: Word Stress Practice

How to do this:

1. The CAPITAL letters show the stressed syllable
2. Say that part LOUDER and slightly longer

3. Practice each word several times

interview

Say it like: IN-ter-view (stress on first syllable)

Try it in a sentence: "I have an IN-ter-view tomorrow."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

experience

Say it like: ex-PE-ri-ence (stress on second syllable)

Try it in a sentence: "I have five years of ex-PE-ri-ence."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

important

Say it like: im-POR-tant (stress on second syllable)

Try it in a sentence: "This is an im-POR-tant meeting."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

certificate

Say it like: cer-TI-fi-cate (stress on second syllable)

Try it in a sentence: "I received my cer-TI-fi-cate last month."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

opportunity

Say it like: op-por-TU-ni-ty (stress on third syllable)

Try it in a sentence: "This job is a great op-por-TU-ni-ty."

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 4: Expressing Emotions

How to do this:

1. Read each sentence with the feeling shown
2. Pay attention to your tone of voice and face
3. Practice showing the emotion clearly

I got the job! 😄

(Express: Excited - speak with enthusiasm)

Voice: Higher pitch, energetic tone

Face: Big smile, wide eyes

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

I'm not sure I understand the instructions. 😞

(Express: Confused - speak with uncertainty)

Voice: Lower volume, hesitant tone

Face: Furrowed eyebrows, slight head tilt

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

The deadline is tomorrow. 😐

(Express: Serious - speak clearly, with emphasis)

Voice: Lower pitch, slower pace

Face: Serious expression, direct eye contact

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Could you explain that again, please? 🙏

(Express: Polite request - speak respectfully)

Voice: Gentle tone, rising at the end

Face: Attentive expression, slight nod

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Thank you for your help. 😊

(Express: Grateful - speak warmly)

Voice: Sincere tone, measured pace

Face: Genuine smile, direct eye contact

Your Practice: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 5: Similar-Sounding Words

How to do this:

1. Listen carefully to your tutor say each pair
2. Try saying both words and feel the difference

3. Learn the meaning of each word
4. Make a sentence using each word

live vs. leave

(Different vowel sounds: short "i" vs. long "ea")

live - meaning: _____

(to exist, to have your home in a place)

leave - meaning: _____

(to go away from, to depart)

Say both:  live (short "i" sound) -  leave (long "ee" sound)

Make sentences:

"I live in an apartment near downtown."

"I leave for work at 8am every day."

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

work vs. walk

(Different vowel sounds: "or" vs. "al")

work - meaning: _____

(to do a job, to be employed)

walk - meaning: _____

(to move on foot)

Say both:  work (rounded lips) -  walk (flat lips)

Make sentences:

"I work five days a week."

"I walk to the bus stop every morning."

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

job vs. join

(Different ending sounds: "b" vs. "n")

job - meaning: _____

(paid position of employment)

join - meaning: _____

(to become a member, to connect with)

Say both:  job (ends with lips closed) -  join (ends with tongue at roof of mouth)

Make sentences:

"I started my new job last week."

"I want to join the team meeting."

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

price vs. prize

(Different ending sounds: "s" vs. "z")

price - meaning: _____

(amount of money something costs)

prize - meaning: _____

(reward for winning or achievement)

Say both:  price (unvoiced "s") -  prize (voiced "z")

Make sentences:

"The price of the course is reasonable."

"She won first prize in the competition."

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

time vs. team



(Different vowel sounds: long "i" vs. long "e")

time - meaning: _____

(hours, minutes, duration)

team - meaning: _____

(group of people working together)

Say both:  time (starts with tongue low) -  team (starts with tongue high)

Make sentences:

"What time is the meeting?"

"Our team works well together."

Your Answer: _____

Tutor's tip: _____

Section 6: Reading Practice: First Day at a New Job

How to do this:

1. First listen to your tutor read
2. Then read out loud, sentence by sentence
3. Pay attention to periods (.) and commas (,)

Today is my first day at my new job. I feel both excited and nervous! ↗ ↘

I arrive at the office building. The receptionist smiles and says, "Welcome to ABC Company!" ↘

I introduce myself to my manager. "Hello, I'm [Your Name]," I say. ↗

"Nice to meet you," my manager replies. "Let me show you around the office." ↗ ↘

During the morning, I meet my new colleagues. Everyone is friendly and helpful. ↘

At lunch, I sit with some co-workers. We talk about the company and our roles. ↘

By the end of the day, I feel more comfortable. I think I'm going to like working here! ↗ ↘

Reading Tips:

- Pause at commas (,) ||
- Stop at periods (.) □
- Sound excited at exclamation points (!) 📣
- Make your voice go up for questions (?) ↗
- Use different voices for dialogue (" ") 🗣️

Tutor's tip: _____

Wrap-Up: For Next Time

New Words I Learned:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5.

Things to Practice More:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Questions for My Tutor: