

Small talk in business topics, questions and situations

Business Result Pre-Intermediate Unit 11

Ask each other personal questions about these topics:

- Weekend(s)/ Days off
- Holidays
- Evenings
- Food and drink
- Travel
- Present projects
- Accommodation/ Home town

Ask any questions from here that are about things you haven't talked about yet:

- What foreign food do you like?
- What's your favourite food?
- Have you ever been abroad?/ Have you ever been to another country?
- What countries would you like to visit?
- What do you usually do at the weekend?
- Do you have any plans for the weekend?
- What did you do last weekend?
- What are you working on at the moment?
- Do you live near here?
- Where are you from?/ Where do you come from?

Discuss the best and worst topics and questions above.

Discuss if you would change of those recommendations in these situations:

1. Meet a supplier in reception and chat before you start your meeting
2. You are using a drinks machine at the same time as a colleague
3. Meet a foreign client at the airport and take them to their hotel in your car, chatting to them as you are driving
4. You are using the internet during your lunch break and talking about what you are reading with the colleague who sits next to you

Ask about any situations above you aren't sure about, discussing good and bad small talk questions and topics each time.

Roleplay those situations, including the small talk.

Listen to four conversations (Business Result Pre-Intermediate Unit 11 Tapescript 53) and match them to the four situations above.