

Keeping the conversation going

This worksheet will help you with:

- ▶ conversation in all situations
- ▶ GESE 7 and 8, interactive and conversation phases
- ▶ ISE II, conversation task

Activity 1

Naomi is asking Jack about the summer job he has just started. For each gap, choose the phrase that fits best, and put a line through the two that are either wrong or don't fit well.

Naomi: Hi, Jack. How are you doing?

Jack: I started my new summer job yesterday.

Naomi: (1)

Jack: Well, I'm helping out in a builder's merchants.

Naomi: (2)

Jack: It's a firm that supplies stuff like bricks, cement and wood. Most of their customers are construction companies, so they might come in and buy supplies when they're building a house or a garage, for instance. Though the general public also go in and buy materials. (3)

Naomi: Sure. So what are you doing?

Jack: So far I've been in the office, getting to know the systems for taking orders, selling over the counter, ordering new supplies, and so on.

Naomi: (4)

Jack: Next week they're going to put me in the yard, and I'll have to move stuff around – not the heavy materials, luckily, as they're transported by – (5) – fork-lift trucks, and I haven't been trained to operate those.

Naomi: And are you enjoying it?

Jack: Oh, at the moment there's so much to learn, my head's spinning. I'm sure I'll enjoy it when I get more familiar with the place. (6) What are you doing for the summer?

- 1 A I hope you don't mind me asking, but what is it?
B Do you happen to know what it is?
C Tell me about it.
- 2 A What?
B What's that, exactly?
C I'm starting work in a bakery next week.
- 3 A Do you get the idea?
B Do you understand?
C Am I making myself clear?
- 4 A Well.
B Uhuh.
C Really.

- 5 A [thinks in silence]
B oh, what're they called? Fork something - oh yes
C do you know what I mean?
- 6 A That's all I can say.
B Well, I'll have to be going.
C But enough of me.

Activity 2

Read this conversation. It contains a number of phrases and sentences which are unsuitable. In pairs, write an improved version of the conversation.

Olivia: Oh look, Jason! There's an eagle.

Jason: Don't be ridiculous. It's much too small. Oh, it's started to rain. By the way, I'm getting wet. Pass me my waterproof from the backpack.

Olivia: Here you are.

Jason: OK.

Olivia: Is that a new waterproof?

Jason: Of course. Incidentally, it's my sister's wedding at the end of next month. Do you want to come to the reception with me?

Olivia: Why not?



Star test-taker activity



Complete each space with one word to show what a star test-taker would do.

- ▶ takes an.....part in conversation.
- ▶ makes sure they fully.....what they are required to do.
- ▶ asks for further.....before making suggestions.
- ▶ considers how the other person.....
- ▶ shows they are.....in what the other person is saying.
- ▶ says if they are trying to think of a particular.....