English 2

February 28, 2023

Small talk

Do and don'ts of small talk: good and bad topics

Here are some Do's and Don'ts of Small Talk.

- DO repeat someone's name. People will remember when you take extra care to catch their name. ...
- DO smile. ...
- DO use small talk to start a meaningful conversation. ...
- DON'T end a conversation abruptly. ...
- DON'T spam your business cards.

Never ask people about **finances** (wage or salary), **politics, religion, death, age** and **appearance**. Avoid **offensive jokes** to **break the ice**, narrow topics, past relationships, serial killers and **illnesses** as you could easily offend someone or be viewed as a negative person. The whole point of small talk is to get a conversation started; if you don't avoid these topics; the conversation will cease to exist.

How much/ how many Few/ a few Little/ a little several