

# Small Talk



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# Small Talk

- Is a casual form of conversation
- *Breaks the ice or the silence* between people
- There are times that small talk is appropriate
- It is sometimes considered rude to say nothing when someone who makes small talk with you
- Ability to conduct small talk is considered a social skill
- People with different relationships make small talk but mostly it's made between people who do not know each other

# Conversation Starters

- Talking about weather
  - It's too hot today, isn't it?
  - Can you believe all of this rain we've been having?
- Talking about current events
  - Did you listen to news today?
  - Did you hear about the hurricane at Trincomalee?
- At the office
  - Looking forward to the weekend?
  - What do you think of the new computers?



# Conversation Starters...

- At a social event
  - Hi, I just love your saree! May I ask you where you got it?
  - Pretty nice place huh?
- Out for a walk
  - Those roses are so beautiful, aren't they?
  - Hello, nice day outside isn't it?
- Waiting somewhere
  - It looks like we are going to be here a while, huh?
  - How long have you been waiting?

# Appropriate Subjects for Small Talk

- Sports
- Hobbies
- Weather
- Family (not private matters)
- Media (films, books, magazines, TV shows, etc.)
- Holidays
- Job (only general questions)
- Celebrities

# Inappropriate Subjects for Small Talk

- Salary
- Age
- Politics (not unless you get to know the person better)
- Intimate Relationships
- Religion (tolerance is the key!)
- Death (we all face it but need not talk about it for the first time we meet someone)
- Sales (do not try to sell something to someone you have just met unless s/he is your customer)

# The End



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