

## Small Talk

'Small Talk' is generally a conversation that you might have with people you don't know very well! It can be someone you meet at a conference, a meeting, on an airplane, etc. These are some useful topics.

### **A. Useful topics!**

Weather - boring, but can get the ball rolling!

Trip – how was it? Jet lag, company, time of journey, stop-overs, service, etc.

Hotel / conference centre – where, comfortable, location, facilities.

Presentations – comments, observations, good, bad, etc.

Job - once again, general questions nothing too specific.

Home town - where do you come from, how is it different/similar to this town, etc.

Family - general questions, not questions about private matters.

Sports - current matches or games, favourite teams, etc.

Hobbies.

Media - films, books, magazines, etc.

Holidays - where, when, etc. but NOT how much!

Latest fashion and trends.

Celebrities - any gossip you may know.

Social media.

### **B. Topics to avoid:**

Salary - how much do you make? - That's none of your business!

Politics - wait to you get to know the person better.

Intimate relationships - only for you and your partner - or maybe your best friend.

Religion - tolerance is the key!

Death - we need to face it, but not the first time we meet someone new!

Financial - related to salary above, most people prefer to keep financial information to themselves.