

The Cure for Awkward Conversations

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Introduction

The holidays are approaching! And we all know what that means, awkward conversations at family gatherings. In this article, I would like to explain ways to make these less awkward, and more engaging.



What makes a conversation awkward???

There are a few different reasons that cause a conversation to be awkward. Maybe, nobody has anything else to contribute to the conversation. This is otherwise known as an awkward silence. Also, if one person in the conversation is not paying any attention, it can be uncomfortable to those speaking. The final reason would be if someone said something that the other person didn't agree with, or tried to make a joke out of something that wasn't funny.

How do I keep a conversation going???

You can keep a conversation going by asking questions, and giving explained answers. Do not speak in one word sentences and try to avoid yes or no questions.

Example:

Sally: If you could be any animal in the world, what would you be?

Tom: I would be a cheetah because I love running. In fact, last year I was on my school's track team. Sally, do you play any sports?

Conversation Starters

Where is one place that you would like to travel to?

If you won a million dollars in the lottery, how would you spend it?

If you could only eat 1 food for the rest of your life, what would you eat?

If you could meet one person in the world (past, present or future), who would you meet?

Conversation Starters Cont.

What are you grateful for?

What was the hardest decision you ever made?

What is your favorite season/holiday? Why?

If you could have one super power, what would it be?

If you could go back in time and give your younger self advice, what would you tell them?

Do's and Don'ts

DO make eye contact. This lets the speaker know that you are listening.

DO use humor! It's always good to have a laugh!

DON'T leave in the middle of a conversation. This is extremely rude.

DON'T talk about politics or any other topics that could lead to an argument. This rule doesn't apply to all situations, but still consider the consequences before bringing up an ify topic.

Thank you for reading and happy
holidays!