

Small Talk

Small talk” refers to short, friendly conversations about topics that are not serious. Below are nine “opener” questions that can start small-talk conversations. In each question, a word is missing. Complete each question by choosing the most appropriate word from the List of Words. Then, choose the most appropriate small-talk topic for each question from the List of Small-Talk Topics.

OPENER	SMALL-TALK TOPIC
1. It looks like _____, doesn't it?	_____
2. Did you watch the _____ yesterday?	_____
3. How's _____ going?	_____
4. How's your _____?	_____
5. Have you seen any good _____ lately?	_____
6. Do you have any _____ for the weekend?	_____
7. The _____ sure is crowded today, isn't it?	_____
8. Are you _____ anything interesting these days?	_____
9. Wow, you got a new _____! How do you like it?	_____

List of Words

game	movies	reading
bus	school	plans
phone	rain	sister

List of Small-Talk Topics

family	weather	sports
studying	books	free time
technology	surroundings	entertainment

Answers to *THE LIGHTER SIDE*

SMALL TALK

- 1. rain (topic: weather)
- 2. game (topic: sports)
- 3. school (topic: studying)
- 4. sister (topic: family)
- 5. movies (topic: entertainment)
- 6. plans (topic: free time)
- 7. bus (topic: surroundings)
- 8. reading (topic: books)
- 9. phone (topic: technology)