

Resource Guide





Tell Me About Yourself



Who is it about?



YOU



Communication is about you and how you present your thoughts and ideas to someone else. Verbal communication can be can last from just 20 seconds to hours. You can introduce yourself and talk about your hobbies, favorite classes and/or the weather.



A simple Introduction



Hobbies, things to do for fun





The weather

Why self-introduction and small talk are important?

Self-Introduction and small talk -

- Shows our ability to meet new people confidently
- Helps break the ice when meeting new people
- Allows us to make good first impression
- Makes others feel more comfortable
- Allows us to create a positive reputation
- Makes us look smart and confident



When to use a self-introduction?











Beginning an interview

Attending a hiring event

Networking with new connections

Giving a presentation

Meeting people at a conference

When to use small talk?







Sitting next to a classmate



At a recruitment dinner



At a networking event



Meeting someone whom you don't know that well

What to include in a professional self-introduction?

Summarize your professional standing

The first sentence should include name, major, classification, may be hometown, and any relevant info.

Elaborate on your experiences and achievements

Highlight the details of most relevant professional skills and accomplishments.

Conclude with a lead-in to the next part of the conversation

Lead into what you'd like to happen next, e.g., show your interest for the position or company.



What to include in a small talk?

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Ask about family, occupation, recreation, and dreams

Ask about a shared interest or circumstance

When in doubt, discuss the surroundings

Avoid talking about talking about politics, religion, physical appearance and age

How to deliver?

- Make eye contact when you speak.
- Pretend you are speaking to a friend.
- Use alternatives to classical questions, e.g., "Where are from?" → "Where do you call home?"
- Repeat what you heard earlier, e.g., "You mentioned you used to work in retail. Where was that?"
- Actively listen to the conversation
- Use your body to communicate positively, e.g., lean in slightly, have a smile, etc.
- Always have confidence in yourself.

