

MINDSET ENGLISH / FREE LEARNING RESOURCE

Natural English Phrasebook

Conversation patterns for starting, continuing, clarifying, and closing everyday English.

FORMAT	BEST FOR	USE IT IN
Pattern phrasebook	A2-C1 learners building smoother conversation	10-minute drills or real conversations

Discover the pattern. Repeat the pattern. Use the pattern until English becomes automatic.

Created by MindSet English for personal learning and reflection.

PART 01

How to learn a phrase as a pattern

Do not memorise each line as a fixed script. Keep the structure and replace the details so the phrase becomes flexible.

THE FOUR-STEP PATTERN DRILL

01 Read the pattern and notice its purpose.

02 Say the example naturally, paying attention to stress and rhythm.

03 Create three personal versions by changing the final detail.

04 Use one version in a short recorded response or real conversation.

Pattern

One thing I find useful is...

Three new versions

One thing I find difficult is... / One thing I want to improve is... / One thing I noticed was...

Turn this pattern into three sentences about your life: What helps me most is...

PART 02

Start and continue a conversation

Use these patterns to enter the conversation, show interest, and invite the other person to say more.

OPEN NATURALLY

- ☐ How has your day been so far?
- ☐ What have you been working on lately?
- ☐ I do not think we have met - I am...
- ☐ What brought you here today?

SHOW INTEREST

- ☐ That sounds interesting. How did you get into it?
- ☐ I see what you mean. What happened next?
- ☐ Really? I had not thought about it that way.
- ☐ That makes sense. Was it what you expected?

CONNECT YOUR IDEA

- ☐ That reminds me of...
- ☐ I had a similar experience when...
- ☐ From my point of view...
- ☐ The main difference for me is...

PART 03

Clarify and repair

Strong speakers do not understand everything immediately. They know how to keep the conversation moving when something is unclear.

WHEN YOU DID NOT HEAR

- ☐ Sorry, could you say that again?
- ☐ I caught the first part, but not the end.
- ☐ Could you say it a little more slowly?

WHEN YOU DID NOT UNDERSTAND

- ☐ What do you mean by...?
- ☐ Do you mean that...?
- ☐ Could you give me an example?
- ☐ Let me check that I understood you correctly.

WHEN YOU NEED ANOTHER WAY TO SAY IT

- ☐ I cannot remember the exact word, but it is something that...
- ☐ What I am trying to say is...
- ☐ Let me put that another way.
- ☐ The simplest way to explain it is...

Practice idea: explain an object without naming it. Keep speaking until your listener can identify it.

PART 04

Share opinions and close well

Good conversation has shape. Signal your viewpoint, acknowledge another perspective, and end without disappearing suddenly.

Give a viewpoint

From my perspective...
The way I see it...
I would say the main issue is...

Add balance

At the same time...
On the other hand...
That said, I can understand why...

Agree thoughtfully

I completely agree, especially about...
That is a good point.
I think we are saying something similar.

Disagree respectfully

I see it a little differently.
I understand that view, but...
I am not completely convinced that...

CLOSE THE CONVERSATION

- ☐ It was really good talking with you.
- ☐ I should get going, but I enjoyed our conversation.
- ☐ Let us continue this another time.
- ☐ Thanks - that gave me something to think about.

Choose five patterns from this guide and create your personal versions: