

Small talk

1. When you take part in an international conference, there are a lot of new people to talk to. To feel more at ease breaking the ice at coffee breaks, study the following expressions to start a small talk:

Talking about the weather

- Beautiful day, isn't it?
- Can you believe all of this rain we've been having?
- It looks like it's going to snow.
- It sure would be nice to be in Hawaii right about now.
- I hear they're calling for thunderstorms all weekend.
- We couldn't ask for a nicer day, could we?
- How about this weather?

Talking about current events

- Did you catch the news today?
- Did you hear about that fire on Lenin St?
- What do you think about this strike in France?
- I read in the paper today that the Sears Mall is closing.
- I heard on the radio today that they are finally going to start building the new bridge.
- How about Spartak? Do you think they're going to win tonight?

2. Think about topics and phrases of your own to complete the list.

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3. Act out a small talk at an international scientific conference with your colleague.