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Meaning of **conversation** in English

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conversation

noun [C/U] • **US** /,kən·vər'seɪ·ʃən/

- ★ **an informal, usually private, talk in which two or more people exchange thoughts, feelings, or ideas, or in which news or information is given or discussed:**

[C] *We had a brief conversation Friday.*

[U] *The topic of conversation was college plans.*

- ★ **If you make conversation, you cause someone to talk to you, esp. about unimportant matters.**

> conversational

adjective **US** /,kən·vər'seɪ·ʃənəl/

He rarely speaks in a normal conversational tone.

(Definition of "conversation" from the [Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary](#) © Cambridge University Press)

"conversation" in English

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She **had** a strange conversation **with** the man who moved in upstairs.

It's impossible to **hold/carry on** a conversation with all this noise going on!

I **struck up** (= started) an interesting conversation **with** your uncle.

Because of television, many people have lost the art of conversation (= talking to each other).

Whenever I'm in a social situation with my boss, we seem to **run out of** conversation (= things to say to each other) after two minutes!

— More examples

She fell into a conversation with a man at the bar.

There are certain topics of conversation that are not suitable for polite society.

She completely monopolized the conversation at lunch.

Brother Michael and Brother John were deep in conversation.

I wish Dad would stop listening in on my phone conversations.

+ Thesaurus: synonyms and related words

Idiom

make conversation

(Definition of "conversation" from the [Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus](#) © Cambridge University Press)

"conversation" in Business English

conversation

noun [C] • **UK** /ˌkɒnvəˈseɪʃən/ **US**

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Examples of “conversation”

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To the extent that conversations are implicitly expected or planned to co-occur with dinners, coffee breaks, or other scheduled activities, they are also temporally constrained.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

In comparison to ordinary conversations, less common words are employed in both informational and narrative texts.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

Clarification requests play an important role in effective conversations, and children must learn the conversational rules for interpreting and responding to such requests.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

Such regularities in conversations are the subject matter of sociolinguistics - the study of how social settings and roles influence language use.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

An initial warm-up conversation was followed by four narrative tasks in which the child was expected to produce at least one narrative.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

The first one is unlikely to occur in everyday conversation.

From [Cambridge English Corpus](#)

The food is typically served only after any business, such as praying, is complete, and only then is there much conversation.

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Without such specification, it remains unclear why some changes made in conversation lead to corrections, and others don't.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

Hearing a piece of music evoked memories from a person's past, and spurred conversation with others about past experiences.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

The literature reviews give manageable starting places for grounding such research projects in a variety of disciplinary conversations.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

However, with regard to the conversation it seems reasonable to assume that less dominance would have been observed had both participants received equal instruction.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

Current lack of such data is easily explained through difficulties of recording private conversations.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

The translation task was always conducted first and was separated by at least 40 min of conversation from the grammaticality judgment task.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

In any conversation where information is conveyed, the interlocutors must have somewhat different models, at least before the end of the conversation.

From *Cambridge English Corpus*

Only statements and conversations considered to be subversive or dangerous attracted the attention of those in authority and came to be recorded via judicial processes.

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