

Unit 1 People and Language

1 Complete the communication verbs. Then number the corresponding dialogues.

1. c o _ _ p l _ _ _ n

2. c _ _ n _ _ i n _ _ e

3. s _ _ o _ _ t

4. _ _ n f o _ _ m

5. a _ _ _ o _ _ n _ _ _

☐ And we have a winner!
The prize goes to...

☐ You should play with us. It will be lots of fun!

☐ I'M OVER HERE! HURRY UP!

☐ Hi, kids! Before we begin you should know...

☐ The microphone I bought here last week is not working.

◆ Complete using the words from Activity 1. Then number the pictures.

- Viktor is a basketball player. He wants to _____ me to play with him.
- When there's a problem, the players _____ to the referee.
- Coaches usually _____ so that we can hear their instructions.
- Viktor is going to _____ the coach that I want to play, too.
- They're about to _____ the beginning of the basketball game.



2 Read and circle the correct options.

Then cut out and glue the pictures.

1. We could say that Larry and Jenny are very assertive because they always **make up / turn away** soon after they fight. They both **clam up / speak up** to make sure their opinions are heard. They've been friends for many years thanks to this.
2. Greta and Sally's friendship is about to **cut in / break down**. They have been arguing about everything lately. Last Saturday, Greta wanted to watch a movie, but Sally didn't. They **fell out / spoke up** and haven't talked to each other for several days.
3. Leo likes playing indoors, but his brother likes the outdoors. They sometimes fall out about where to play. When this happens, Leo usually **clams up / cuts in** and goes away. When he finally **turns away / calms down**, he apologizes to his brother and then they both go out and play.
4. Olaf and Kendra have just become friends. Olaf likes talking with Kendra, but there's a problem: he doesn't like it when Kendra **cuts in / falls out** when he is talking. He has tried to talk to her about it, but she **speaks up / turns away** and clams up. What should he do?



Greta and Dylan **have just arrived** at school.
We've just signed a new eco-energy deal.
I've just sat down.

1 Complete the sentences using *just* and the verbs in the box.

see tell arrive read climb



1. The park ranger _____ at the new reserve.
2. Mary and Todd _____ me about it.
3. I _____ the news on the internet.
4. We _____ some of the pictures.
5. A lemur _____ on her shoulder.

2 Unscramble the sentences.

1. just / to his parents / . / talked / Harry's

2. his aunt / They've / had / a call / from / just / . /

3. reserve / moved / She's / a / just / . / natural / to

4. new workplace / He's / . / just / a picture / seen / of his aunt's /

5. a vacation / decided / . / They've / with her / to spend / just



3 Read and complete using *just* and the cues in the box.

Then listen and check your answers. 

I / read she / text we / inform I / talk
I / forget they / announce she / speak we / arrive

JESSIE: Hi, Luke! Guess what?

(1) _____ to Mara.
She's been working on the science project.

LUKE: Oh, I know. (2) _____
me about it. I think she wants to convince me to work with her. It sounds interesting!

JESSIE: Yes, it does, but (3) _____
our teacher that we will be working together. Besides, I think our project is going to be interesting, too.

LUKE: You're right. (4) _____
something here about an eco-friendly gadget. We could ask Mr. Slater if that would be a good idea for the science fair.



MARA: (5) _____, and it's about to be our turn to speak. Let's hurry!

JULIO: I know. We should get our things ready. Has Jessie presented her project yet?

MARA: Yes, (6) _____ about an eco-friendly gadget.

JULIO: Listen! (7) _____ our project. It's our turn to speak.

MARA: Oh, no! (8) _____ my lines!

4 Write about three things you've just done.

- I've just _____
- _____
- _____

We've been waiting for you since 8 a.m.
It's been standing there for two hours.

5 Describe each scene using the cues. Then number the pictures.

1. _____ (follow them / all morning)
2. _____ (look / watch / all this time)
3. _____ (take / pictures of the place)
4. _____ (wait / for someone / an hour)
5. _____ (take notes / notebook)
6. _____ (try / figure out / their plans)



6 Circle the correct options. SB

Good Buddies Quiz

1. Dylan and Greta are Vicky's son and **niece / daughter**.
2. Vicky might be late getting **home / to work** tonight.
3. Mr. Diamond is Vicky's **friend / boss**.
4. Mr. Diamond has just **signed / read** a big eco-energy deal.
5. Vicky receives an anonymous **call / e-mail** at the office.
6. Vicky receives an anonymous **call / e-mail** at home.
7. An oil pipeline will **destroy / save** the land of the Amur leopard.
8. Vicky is **happy / puzzled** after the anonymous messages.

An Anonymous Call



Reading

1 Read and choose the best heading for each paragraph.

- a. How to Develop Conversational Skills b. Why Small Talk Can Be Hard
c. What Conversational Skills Are Like

☐

Small talk is a polite conversation about unimportant matters. Making small talk sounds easy, but it is not for everybody. The reasons for this might include shyness and lack of social skills. Shy people usually find it hard to hold prolonged conversations and connect with others. Some people might not have developed the skills to make conversation. If you are a good talker, try to help other kids to practice or develop their conversational skills.

☐

People with good conversational skills know when and where to speak or stop talking. They also use the right kind of body language and tone of voice for each situation, and they certainly know when to tell a joke or when to end a conversation. Conversational skills are not just about being a good speaker. They also make you a good listener, so you never just cut in when others are expressing their thoughts and feelings.

☐

To improve your conversational skills, follow these pieces of advice: First, practice making conversation with your family at home. Pretend that you are in different social situations while you do so. This will help you to calm down and lower your levels of anxiety. Second, ask questions that show your genuine interest in the people you are talking to. Finally, remember to be polite and listen to other people's ideas, without imposing your own. Remember that it's a conversation, not a contest.



2 Read again and answer the questions.

1. How is small talk defined?

2. What can make small talk difficult?

3. What things do you do well when you have good conversational skills?

4. What can you do in order to develop better conversational skills?

5. What should you do if a friend is shy or doesn't have good conversational skills?

Writing

1 Read the description. What is it about? Mark (✓) the correct picture.

A Young Speaker

Alba is a very talented student. She's twelve years old and has just won a prize in our school's public speaking contest. When Alba heard about the contest, she decided to enter it because she loves sharing her ideas. After she signed up, she thought it would be exciting to speak about ways to protect endangered animals. She did some research about several species, and she came across very interesting facts about a sea creature, the vaquita calf. Look at Alba's draft:

The vaquita calf, which lives in the Gulf of California, is a mammal that looks like a small whale. The Mexican government has been working on a project to prevent this species from becoming extinct. The main reason that the number of vaquita calves has decreased is that they usually get entangled in the nets that fishermen use to catch fish. However, there is some good news: many fishermen have stopped using those nets, and several vaquita calves have recently been seen in the ocean.



◆ Read again and complete the chart.

Endangered Animal	What is it like?	Where does it live?	Why is it endangered?	How can it be protected?
vaquita calf				

2 Use the chart above to look up information about another endangered species. Then write a paragraph about it.

Listening

1 Listen and mark (✓) the correct answer.  

1. What has Mary just done?



A



B



C

2. Where is Mark going?



A



B



C

3. What time is it?



A



B



C

4. Where is the students' next field trip going to be?



A



B



C

5. Who is speaking now?



A



B



C

My Space

1 Are you a good speaker and listener? Take this test.

- | | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|-------|
| 1. How often do you start a conversation? | always | sometimes | never |
| 2. Do you tell others about your ideas? | always | sometimes | never |
| 3. Do you find ways to make up after a fight? | always | sometimes | never |
| 4. Do you listen carefully to others? | always | sometimes | never |
| 5. Do you make eye contact with others? | always | sometimes | never |
| 6. How often do you use language assertively? | always | sometimes | never |
| 7. Do you describe your ideas in detail? | always | sometimes | never |
| 8. Do you end conversations politely? | always | sometimes | never |

2 Read the e-mail. Write a reply to tell Eva about your results.

From: Eva
Subject: Test



Hi!

I've just taken the test, and guess what? I'm puzzled about my results. I'm not the great conversationalist I thought I was. I always start conversations, but I never listen to others carefully. Besides, I usually don't know what to do to make up with my friends after a fight. I just clam up and turn away. I really hope to improve my style in the future. How about you?

Love,
Eva



B / **I** / **U** / **T** / **...**



Hi Eva,

Love,

Listening

1 Listen and circle the correct option.

1. You will hear two friends talking about an article. What is stated in the article?
 - A We can't change our communication styles.
 - B Personality influences the way we communicate.
 - C There's nothing interesting about communication styles.
2. You will hear a boy talking to his mother about a speech contest at school. When is it?
 - A Next Tuesday.
 - B This Thursday.
 - C Next Thursday.
3. You will hear two friends talking about their friendship. What does Sandy want to do?
 - A She wants to have some ice cream.
 - B She wants to watch a movie.
 - C She wants to go home.
4. You will hear two friends talking about public speaking. What should Zac do if he is nervous?
 - A He should do some breathing exercises.
 - B He should speak clearly and at a good pace.
 - C He should make eye contact with the audience.
5. You will hear a boy and his teacher talking about a sports game. When is Ricky's next basketball game?
 - A It's at ten o'clock on Sunday.
 - B It's at ten o'clock on Saturday.
 - C It's at nine thirty on Saturday.
6. You will hear two friends talking about a test on communication skills. What is Lucy's strength?
 - A She maintains eye contact with the audience.
 - B She's a good listener.
 - C She clarifies things well.



Reading and Writing

1 For each question, choose the correct answer. 

Hi, Jana. I'm sorry we fell out.
Can we talk in the classroom?
I don't want our friendship to
break down.

- A Jana's friend wants to end their friendship.
- B Jana's friend wants to talk to her.
- C Jana's friend wants to clean up the classroom.

Gwen,
The party is on Friday at 7:00
p.m. My parents will drive us
there an hour later.
Karen

- A Gwen's parents can take the girls to the party at 7:00 p.m.
- B Gwen's parents can take the girls to the party at 6:00 p.m.
- C Gwen's parents can take the girls to the party at 8:00 p.m.

Missing Dogs

November 23

Niko got lost two days
ago. Please help us
find our puppy!



- A Niko got lost on November 21st.
- B Niko got lost on November 20th.
- C Niko got lost on November 23rd.

Wheels & Sports Sale



50% off
on the 2nd item



25% off
on the 2nd item

- A You can buy one bike for half its usual price.
- B You can buy two skateboards for half their regular price.
- C You can buy a second bike for half its usual price.

2 Answer the following questions in a 100-word paragraph.

- What is one of your communication weaknesses?
- How can you improve your communication style?
