Keeping the conversation going

This worksheet will help you with:
- conversation in all situations
- GESE Grade 7, interactive and conversation phases
- ISE I, conversation task

Activity 1

Complete these exchanges by choosing a sentence from the box to match each function (shown in brackets). Write the sentences on the lines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorry? I didn’t quite catch that.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do you happen to know how often they run?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What did you think of it?</td>
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<tr>
<td>I thought it was great, too.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sorry, I’m not sure I follow you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does that mean we won’t have enough time for everything we want to do?</td>
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<tr>
<td>By the way, I’ll only be here until Thursday.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What do you think?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you been there?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What exactly do you mean?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. A I was really impressed by the film – it was so exciting. *(Ask the other person to comment on what you’ve said.)*  
   B I wasn’t so keen on it.

2. A Maybe we should wait another five minutes for Stephen. *(Ask the other person to comment on your suggestion.)*  
   B We might be late for the train. I think we should go now.

3. A I’ve just come back from a week in Paris. *(Ask the other person a question.)*  
   B No, but I’d love to go.

4. A There’s a two-hour limit on parking here. *(Check you’ve understood.)*  
   B
5  A Could you help me carry these boxes, please?
   B (Ask the other person to repeat something)

6  A We’re going to have problems completing all this work on time.
   B (Ask the other person to explain what they’ve said)

7  A You’ll need to get a bus into the town centre.
   B (Ask the other person a question that they may not be able to answer)

8  A You can ask at the tourist information office about guided walks round the town.
   B OK. (Change the subject to some extent)

9  A I saw the first James Bond film on TV last night. I really enjoyed it.
   B (Comment on what the other person said)

10 A We can’t do what we’d planned, so we’ll have to go back to my original suggestion.
    B (Ask the other person to explain what they mean)

**Star test-taker activity**

Here are four sentences about speaking in conversation. At the beginning of each sentence, write ‘True’ or ‘False’.

................. Everyone in a conversation is responsible for its success.

................. In English-speaking countries, it’s normally OK to ask the other person questions,

................. even if they’re much older than you.

................. If you start ‘By the way,’ it shows you want to change the subject.

................. You should never give your opinion of what the other person has said.

This resource was developed using insights gained from analysis of findings from the Trinity Lancaster Spoken Learner Corpus, a research collaboration project between Trinity College London and the Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science (CASS) at Lancaster University.