

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 70

Mics Off The Date Martin Couldnt Stop Thinking About

Key words & expressions · English + Deutsch

Your English Toolbox

1

to hit it off

sofort miteinander auskommen · auf Anhieb sympathisch finden

DEF

to immediately like each other and get along well from the very first meeting

Hit it off captures the instant chemistry of a great first encounter — there is no effort, no awkwardness, just an immediate connection. Common in dating, friendship, and professional contexts. Very natural in spoken English.

DE

Sich sofort mögen und gut miteinander auskommen ab dem allerersten Treffen.

Erfasst die sofortige Chemie einer großartigen ersten Begegnung.

They hit it off immediately — by the end of the first coffee they were already planning a second meeting.

They hit it off immediately — by the end of the first coffee they were already planning a second meeting. -> Sie kamen sofort miteinander aus — am Ende des ersten Kaffees planten sie bereits ein zweites Treffen.

She and her new English conversation partner hit it off so well that they still speak every week two years later.

She and her new English conversation partner hit it off so well that they still speak every week two years later. -> Sie und ihr neuer Englisch-Gesprächspartner fanden sich auf Anhieb so sympathisch, dass sie zwei Jahre später noch jede Woche sprechen.

2

to keep someone in mind

jemanden im Hinterkopf behalten · an jemanden denken

DEF

to remember someone and think about them, usually with the intention of contacting them or involving them in something later

Keep someone in mind is warmer than 'remember someone' — it suggests you are holding them in a positive mental space, often as a potential future connection. Very common in professional and romantic English contexts.

DE

Sich an jemanden erinnern und an ihn denken, in der Regel mit der Absicht, ihn später zu kontaktieren oder einzubeziehen.

Wärmer als 'sich an jemanden erinnern' — deutet darauf hin, dass man ihn in einem positiven mentalen Raum hält.

He kept her in mind for weeks after their first meeting — he couldn't stop thinking about the conversation.

He kept her in mind for weeks after their first meeting. -> Er behielt sie wochenlang nach ihrem ersten Treffen im Hinterkopf.

She kept her English teacher in mind long after the course ended and reached out again three years later.

She kept her English teacher in mind long after the course ended and reached out again three years later. -> Sie dachte lange nach dem Ende des Kurses an ihren Englischlehrer und meldete sich drei Jahre später wieder.

3

to strike up a conversation

ein Gespräch beginnen · mit jemandem zu reden anfangen den man nicht kennt

DEF

to start talking to someone you do not know — to initiate friendly social contact

Strike up a conversation is the social initiative verb. Many English learners find this difficult because it requires confidence in the language and cultural awareness of when it is appropriate. In English-speaking contexts (particularly the UK and Australia), there are specific situations where striking up a conversation with a stranger is normal: waiting in queues, on trains, at events.

DE

Mit jemandem zu reden anfangen den man nicht kennt — freundlichen sozialen Kontakt zu initiieren.

Das soziale Initiativverb.

Striking up a conversation with a stranger in English is easier than you think — start with an observation.

Striking up a conversation with a stranger in English is easier than you think — start with an observation. -> Ein Gespräch mit einem Fremden auf Englisch zu beginnen ist einfacher als du denkst — fange mit einer Beobachtung an.

She struck up a conversation with her seatmate on the train and they ended up talking for the entire journey.

She struck up a conversation with her seatmate on the train and they ended up talking for the entire journey. -> Sie begann ein Gespräch mit ihrem Sitznachbarn im Zug und sie redeten schließlich die gesamte Reise über.

4

to make small talk

Smalltalk machen · lockere leichte Gespräche über unwichtige Themen führen

DEF

to engage in casual, light conversation about unimportant topics — typically to build social comfort before more meaningful exchange

Make small talk is the social lubricant skill. In English-speaking cultures, small talk is expected and valued — it is not seen as wasting time but as building social connection before getting to the point. Topics like weather, the weekend, sport, and commuting are classic small talk territories. Many non-native speakers find small talk harder than formal discussions.

DE

Lockere, leichte Gespräche über unwichtige Themen zu führen — typischerweise um sozialen Komfort aufzubauen.

Die soziale Schmiermittelkompetenz.

Small talk is a cultural requirement in English-speaking workplaces — learn it as a skill, not a formality.

Small talk is a cultural requirement in English-speaking workplaces — learn it as a skill, not a formality. -> Smalltalk ist eine kulturelle Anforderung in englischsprachigen Arbeitsplätzen — lerne es als Fähigkeit, nicht als Formalität.

She used to avoid office social events but once she learned to make small talk, she found them genuinely enjoyable.

She used to avoid office social events but once she learned to make small talk, she found them genuinely enjoyable. -> Sie mied früher Büro-Socialevents aber sobald sie Smalltalk gelernt hatte fand sie sie wirklich angenehm.

5

to build rapport

Rapport aufbauen · ein Gefühl von Vertrauen und gegenseitigem Verständnis mit einer Person aufbauen

DEF

to create a sense of trust, connection and mutual understanding with another person

Build rapport is the relationship foundation verb. Rapport is not friendship — it is the feeling of ease and connection that makes communication flow. In professional English, building rapport is a deliberate skill: asking about the other person, mirroring their energy, showing genuine interest. Without rapport, communication feels transactional.

DE

Ein Gefühl von Vertrauen, Verbindung und gegenseitigem Verständnis mit einer anderen Person aufzubauen.

Das Beziehungsgrundlage-Verb.

Build rapport before getting to the point — a brief personal exchange makes professional conversations warmer.

Build rapport before getting to the point — a brief personal exchange makes professional conversations warmer. -> Baue Rapport auf bevor du zum Punkt kommst — ein kurzer persönlicher Austausch macht professionelle Gespräche wärmer.

She quickly built rapport with clients by remembering small personal details from previous conversations.

She quickly built rapport with clients by remembering small personal details from previous conversations. -> Sie baute schnell Rapport mit Kunden auf indem sie sich kleine persönliche Details aus früheren Gesprächen merkte.

6

to stay in touch

in Kontakt bleiben · regelmäßigen Kontakt zu jemandem halten

DEF

to maintain regular contact with someone — especially after an initial meeting or after a period of separation

Stay in touch is the relationship maintenance phrase. After meeting someone at an event or in a class, staying in touch is what converts a single encounter into a real connection. In professional English, it often involves an explicit invitation: 'let's stay in touch' or 'let's connect on LinkedIn'. Following through separates good networkers from those who just collect contacts.

DE

Regelmäßigen Kontakt zu jemandem zu halten — besonders nach einem ersten Treffen oder nach einer Trennungszeit.

Der Beziehungspflegungsausdruck.

Stay in touch after meeting someone interesting — send a brief message the next day to keep the connection alive.

Stay in touch after meeting someone interesting — send a brief message the next day to keep the connection alive. -> Bleibe in Kontakt nachdem du jemanden Interessantes getroffen hast — schicke eine kurze Nachricht am nächsten Tag um die Verbindung am Leben zu halten.

She made a point of staying in touch with everyone she met at the conference and several became long-term collaborators.

She made a point of staying in touch with everyone she met at the conference and several became long-term collaborators. -> Sie legte Wert darauf mit allen in Kontakt zu bleiben die sie auf der Konferenz getroffen hatte und mehrere wurden langjährige Mitarbeiter.

7

to have something in common

etwas gemeinsam haben · Interessen Erfahrungen Werte oder Merkmale mit einer anderen Person teilen

DEF

to share interests, experiences, values, or characteristics with another person

Have something in common is the connection phrase. Finding common ground is one of the fastest ways to build connection with someone new. In English-speaking social situations, noticing and naming common ground — 'I studied that too', 'I grew up there as well', 'we both work in that field' — is a social skill that moves conversations from polite to genuine.

DE

Interessen, Erfahrungen, Werte oder Merkmale mit einer anderen Person zu teilen.

Der Verbindungsausdruck.

Find what you have in common with someone early in a conversation — it builds trust and keeps things flowing.

Find what you have in common with someone early in a conversation — it builds trust and keeps things flowing. -> Finde früh in einem Gespräch was du mit jemandem gemeinsam hast — es baut Vertrauen auf und hält den Fluss aufrecht.

They discovered they had so much in common that what started as a five-minute chat lasted two hours.

They discovered they had so much in common that what started as a five-minute chat lasted two hours. -> Sie entdeckten dass sie so vieles gemeinsam hatten dass was als Fünf-Minuten-Plausch begann zwei Stunden dauerte.

8

to reach out to someone

sich an jemanden wenden · Kontakt zu jemandem aufnehmen

DEF

to make contact with someone — especially to offer help, ask for something, or renew a lapsed connection

Reach out to someone is the modern networking phrase. It has largely replaced 'contact' in professional English, with a slightly warmer connotation — reaching out implies initiative and genuine interest rather than just a transactional exchange. You reach out to a mentor, a potential collaborator, or someone you lost contact with.

DE

Kontakt zu jemandem aufzunehmen — besonders um Hilfe anzubieten, um etwas zu bitten oder eine unterbrochene Verbindung zu erneuern.

Der moderne Networking-Ausdruck.

Reach out to people whose work you admire — a thoughtful message often gets a warmer reply than you expect.

Reach out to people whose work you admire — a thoughtful message often gets a warmer reply than you expect. -> Wende dich an Menschen deren Arbeit du bewunderst — eine nachdenkliche Nachricht bekommt oft eine wärmere Antwort als erwartet.

She reached out to a former classmate working in her target field and it led to an unexpected job opportunity.

She reached out to a former classmate working in her target field and it led to an unexpected job opportunity. -> Sie wandte sich an einen ehemaligen Klassenkameraden der in ihrem Zielfeld arbeitete und es führte zu einer unerwarteten Jobchance.

9

to make a good impression

einen guten Eindruck hinterlassen · jemanden dazu bringen positiv über einen zu denken

DEF

to cause someone to think positively about you — typically through your behaviour, manner, or communication

Make a good impression is the social performance phrase. First impressions happen within seconds and are disproportionately shaped by non-verbal cues — eye contact, posture, handshake — as well as by the fluency and warmth of initial communication. For English learners, making a good impression in a second language is a genuine achievement.

DE

Jemanden dazu zu bringen positiv über einen zu denken — typischerweise durch Verhalten, Art oder Kommunikation.

Der soziale Leistungsausdruck.

Make a good impression in English by smiling, making eye contact, and speaking clearly rather than quickly.

Make a good impression in English by smiling, making eye contact, and speaking clearly rather than quickly. -> Hinterlasse auf Englisch einen guten Eindruck indem du lächelst, Augenkontakt herstellst und klar statt schnell sprichst.

She focused on making a good impression at the interview not by speaking perfectly but by being warm and specific.

She focused on making a good impression at the interview not by speaking perfectly but by being warm and specific. -> Sie konzentrierte sich darauf bei dem Interview einen guten Eindruck zu hinterlassen nicht indem sie perfekt sprach sondern indem sie warm und konkret war.

word of mouth

10

Mundpropaganda · die Weitergabe von Informationen oder Empfehlungen von Person zu Person

DEF

the passing of information, recommendations, or opinions from one person to another through conversation

Word of mouth is the organic information sharing phrase. In professional and social contexts, word of mouth is often more powerful than advertising — people trust personal recommendations. For language learners, building a reputation through word of mouth — 'she is really good at her job', 'he is someone worth knowing' — depends on the quality of their communication.

DE

Die Weitergabe von Informationen, Empfehlungen oder Meinungen von einer Person zur anderen durch Gespräch.

In professionellen und sozialen Kontexten ist Mundpropaganda oft mächtiger als Werbung.

Word of mouth is the most powerful form of professional reputation — communicate well and it takes care of itself.

Word of mouth is the most powerful form of professional reputation — communicate well and it takes care of itself. -> Mundpropaganda ist die mächtigste Form professioneller Reputation — kommuniziere gut und sie regelt sich von selbst.

Her work spread by word of mouth among the English-speaking community and she did not need to advertise.

Her work spread by word of mouth among the English-speaking community and she did not need to advertise. -> Ihre Arbeit verbreitete sich durch Mundpropaganda in der englischsprachigen Gemeinschaft und sie musste nicht werben.