

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 70

Mics Off The Date Martin Couldnt Stop Thinking About

Key words & expressions · English + Español

Your English Toolbox

1

to hit it off

congeniar desde el primer momento · hacer buenas migas de entrada

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.

ES

Gustarse mutuamente e llevarse bien desde el mismo primer encuentro.

Captura la química instantánea de un gran primer encuentro — sin esfuerzo, sin torpeza, solo una conexión inmediata.

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. -> Congeniaron desde el primer momento — al final del primer café ya estaban planeando una segunda reunión.

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. -> Ella y su nuevo compañero de conversación en inglés hicieron tan buenas migas de entrada que todavía hablan cada semana dos años después.

2 to keep someone in mind tener a alguien en mente · no olvidarse de alguien

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.

ES

Recordar a alguien y pensar en él, generalmente con la intención de contactarle o implicarle en algo más adelante.

Es más cálido que 'recordar a alguien' — sugiere que los estás guardando en un espacio mental positivo.

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. -> La tuvo en mente durante semanas después de su primer encuentro.

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. -> No se olvidó de su profesor de inglés mucho después de que el curso terminara y lo contactó de nuevo tres años después.

3 to strike up a conversation entablar una conversación · empezar a hablar con alguien que no conoces — iniciar contacto social amistoso

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.

ES

Empezar a hablar con alguien que no conoces — iniciar contacto social amistoso.

El verbo de iniciativa social. Muchos estudiantes de inglés lo encuentran difícil porque requiere confianza y conciencia cultural.

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. -> Entablar una conversación con un extraño en inglés es más fácil de lo que crees — empieza con una observación.

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. -> Entabló una conversación con su compañero de asiento en el tren y terminaron hablando durante todo el viaje.

to make small talk

4

hacer pequeña charla · mantener conversación casual y ligera sobre temas sin importancia

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.

ES

Mantener conversación casual y ligera sobre temas sin importancia — típicamente para construir comodidad social.

La habilidad lubricante social. En las culturas anglófonas, la pequeña charla es esperada y valorada. Muchos no nativos la encuentran más difícil que las discusiones formales.

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. -> La pequeña charla es un requisito cultural en los lugares de trabajo anglófonos — apréndela como habilidad, no como formalidad.

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. -> Solía evitar los eventos sociales de la oficina pero una vez que aprendió a hacer pequeña charla, los encontró genuinamente agradables.

to build rapport

5

crear una buena relación · crear una sensación de confianza y conexión mutua con otra persona

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.

ES

Crear una sensación de confianza, conexión y comprensión mutua con otra persona.

El verbo de la base de la relación. El rapport no es amistad — es la sensación de facilidad y conexión que hace fluir la comunicación.

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. -> Crea una buena relación antes de ir al grano — un breve intercambio personal hace que las conversaciones profesionales sean más cálidas.

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. -> Creó rápidamente una buena relación con los clientes recordando pequeños detalles personales de conversaciones anteriores.

to stay in touch

6

mantenerse en contacto · mantener contacto regular con alguien — especialmente después de un encuentro inicial

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.

ES

Mantener contacto regular con alguien — especialmente después de un encuentro inicial o después de un período de separación.

La frase de mantenimiento de la relación. Mantenerse en contacto convierte un único encuentro en una conexión real.

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. -> Mantente en contacto después de conocer a alguien interesante — envía un breve mensaje al día siguiente para mantener viva la conexión.

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. -> Se propuso mantenerse en contacto con todos los que conoció en la conferencia y varios se convirtieron en colaboradores a largo plazo.

7

to have something in common

tener algo en común · compartir intereses, experiencias o valores con otra persona

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.

ES

Compartir intereses, experiencias, valores o características con otra persona.

La frase de conexión. Encontrar terreno común es una de las formas más rápidas de construir conexión con alguien nuevo.

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. -> Encuentra lo que tienes en común con alguien pronto en una conversación — genera confianza y mantiene el flujo.

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. -> Descubrieron que tenían tanto en común que lo que empezó como una charla de cinco minutos duró dos horas.

to reach out to someone

8

contactar a alguien · ponerse en contacto con alguien — especialmente para ofrecer ayuda o renovar una conexión

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.

ES

Ponerse en contacto con alguien — especialmente para ofrecer ayuda, pedir algo o renovar una conexión que se ha interrumpido.

La frase moderna de networking. Ha reemplazado en gran medida a 'contact' en el inglés profesional, con una connotación ligeramente más cálida.

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. -> Contacta a personas cuyo trabajo admiras — un mensaje reflexivo a menudo obtiene una respuesta más cálida de lo que esperas.

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. -> Se puso en contacto con un antiguo compañero de clase que trabajaba en su campo objetivo y llevó a una oportunidad laboral inesperada.

9

to make a good impression

causar buena impresión · hacer que alguien piense positivamente sobre ti a través de tu comportamiento o comunicación

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.

ES

Hacer que alguien piense positivamente sobre ti — típicamente a través de tu comportamiento, manera o comunicación.

La frase de la actuación social. Las primeras impresiones ocurren en segundos y están desproporcionadamente moldeadas por señales no verbales.

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.

-> Causa buena impresión en inglés sonriendo, manteniendo contacto visual y hablando con claridad en lugar de rápido.

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. -> Se centró en causar buena impresión en la entrevista no hablando perfectamente sino siendo cálida y específica.

word of mouth

10

el boca a boca · la transmisión de información o recomendaciones de persona a persona mediante la conversación

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.

ES

La transmisión de información, recomendaciones u opiniones de una persona a otra mediante la conversación.

En los contextos profesionales y sociales, el boca a boca es a menudo más poderoso que la publicidad.

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. -> El boca a boca es la forma más poderosa de reputación profesional — comunícate bien y se cuida solo.

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. -> Su trabajo se extendió por el boca a boca entre la comunidad anglohablante y no necesitó hacer publicidad.