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For those looking for a little romance we have a big selection of love quotes, poems and lyrics. Plus something to put a smile on your face with dating jokes and cartoons.

If you are searching for something more specific then we have a comprehensive directory of some of the best dating, personals and singles associated web sites on the internet.

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# **The Art of Conversation**

2007 Version

# Introduction

Not everyone is born to be a natural at starting conversations on the spur of the moment, but almost everyone seems to have a hard time coming up with the right topics to discuss when trying to engage in conversation with someone they are attracted to, on the first date or even the first few dates together. The first step to being a good conversationalist is to overcome your fear of approaching the object of your interest. It's not an easy task, but it is possible! You are in control of your dating prowess and how you manage your plan of 'attack'.

The first thing you must realize is that everyone feels fear and apprehension about most 'firsts' in their lives, especially when it comes to dealing with romantic interests. It all comes down to making choices. You can decide that you will let your fear cripple you and prevent you from possibly meeting great potential partners as well as possible great relationships. Or you can decide that you will take the tools provided in this book as well as working on your own confidence in order to motivate yourself and improve your chance of meeting someone very special. You CAN use your fear as the strength you need to approach people you are interested in or to be successful on your dates. Use your fear to your advantage and let it stimulate the strength you need to approach anyone. Anything that gets your adrenaline rushing is worth taking a shot at! The next time you find yourself wishing you could meet someone or you have the opportunity to spend time with someone you are quite interested in, don't fear it- enjoy it and learn how to make something happen.

Next, you need to realize that when a man or a woman approaches someone they are attracted to, they tend to feel the need to act differently than they normally would almost as if they are better able to defend their ego if the conversation

should end in rejection. This is a brilliant, yet counter-productive way after being given a brush-off from to keep the rejection from being your fault. However, this attitude is that actual reason rejection occurs in the first place! Both men and women can be very observant and the more they are hit on by 'fakers', the easier they are to spot. Don't be a victim of this destructive trend! 'Fakers' will not make it with anyone they approach unless the object of their deception *wants* to be their victim and that isn't that often!

After you've conquered your fear of approaching the object of your interest, you've got to be armed with the tools you need in order to be able to engage in conversation that makes you both attractive and capable. Nothing kills the mood or interest faster than awkward silence! Every single line or conversation starter you hear or read about will not work for you unless they are right for you. Practice a few that seem to be right and you'll begin to understand exactly what works very quickly. You need to go with what feels natural to you and you may even find that you come up with your own original and effective lines and techniques in no time that others will be borrowing from you!

Before you go out on the 'prowl', on your first date or just leave the house when you might have the opportunity to meet someone special, prepare a list of ideas and questions you want to have handy just in case. If you are prepared to have a conversation at any time, you can use it whenever a situation presents itself. You will also find that you have a wonderfully large boost in your confidence when you always feel equipped and ready to engage in conversation at any time.

In order to be successful, you should always have your list of questions and other conversation topics prepared before meeting someone new or going out on your date. Another extremely important aspect of having a successful encounter is to make sure you listen to the person you are interested in or on a date with. Truly

listen to them! As you are listening, you should feel free to ask questions, but remember your manners and don't interrupt! He or she will love that you are not only interested in them, but that you are interested enough to share in the conversation! Whatever the conversation might be, always remain focused and positive. You are trying to make a good impression! Finally, take this time to enjoy yourself. No matter how your time with the other person might end, you put enough time and effort into the situation to have a little fun yourself!

When you enter into conversations, don't make your questions sound like you are conducting an interview! You don't want to sound like everyone else and more interesting conversation makes you more attractive.

If conversation slows or flat-out stops, take control. You can lead the conversation so that he or she feels comfortable and you seem interesting. You can also take the conversation where you want it to go so that you can make yourself seem more mysterious or exciting if you want to!

While you talk to him or her, make sure you make eye contact. Don't glare or stare to make him or her uncomfortable, but simply let him or her know that they have your complete and undivided attention. Eye contact also makes you look confident and like you know exactly what you want.

If you are out in public with a date or during a first meeting, you are not only going to impress him or her with your own conversation, but also how you speak to those around you. Be sure to be attentive and kind to the waiter, the bartender or anyone else who happens upon your moment. He or she will notice your attitude towards everyone.

Everyone loves to have a good time and smile. Have fun with him or her and feel

free to be a little playful! You can direct the conversation towards fun topics or simply inject your own unique brand of humor here and there.

While there are many topics you can discuss to have a successful meeting or date, there are some topics that are just predestined to cause problems. Avoid talking about things like politics and religion or anything else that has the potential to blow up in your face! Stay on your planned conversation course- those topics can always be discussed later on when you've established a comfort level.

Everything you do with someone new should seem natural, pleasant and always presented with a smile. You may have to look for opportunities to practice and exercise your conversation skills or they may just fall right into your lap. However it happens for you, you need to have your conversation topics ready at all times! Here is an extensive yet still expandable list of conversation topics on a variety of subjects. Many categories may feature questions used in other categories, but they are there to inspire multiple questions in different areas. Again, only use what feels natural to you, what you find interesting and happy dating!

#### \*\*\* RECOMMENDED SITE \*\*\*

Match.com - Do you like to have plenty of options? If you do, then Match.com is probably for you! One of the most popular dating sites on the Internet, Match.com has over 4 million singles from which you can choose. Are those enough choices?

## **Pets**

Pets are common favorites among most people and quite a safe topic! In fact, very few people don't enjoy talking about their favorite pets! You can also broach the subject of animal rights and ethics as well if the situation seems comfortable enough.

Do you have any pets?

If not, would you like to have a pet?

Have you ever had a pet?

What is your dog's name?

What is your cat's name?

Do you know anyone who has a horse?

Do you know someone who owns an unusual pet?

Do you prefer dogs or cats?

Do you talk to your pet sometimes?

Do you think it is acceptable to test cosmetics on animals?

How do you feel about the use of animals for medical research?

Do you think it is okay to eat meat?

Is there any kind of meat you would not eat?

Do you think it is right to keep wild animals in a zoo?

Do you think it's okay to free animals that have been in captivity all their lives? Why or why not?

Do you think people should buy and wear fur coats?

Do you think that animals have dreams?

Do your pets have any special quirks?

Have a dog ever bitten you?

Have you ever been to a farm?

Have you ever been to a horse race?

Have you ever been to a zoo? Do you have a favorite zoo?

Have you ever eaten rabbit meat?

Have you ever gambled on a horse race?

Do you bathe your pet or have it groomed?

Have you ever had a pet? / Have you ever had any pets?

Have you ever ridden a horse? How about a camel?

Have you ever seen a bullfight?

Have you ever seen a dog race?

Have you ever seen a "therapy dog?"

How many birds do you know that can't fly?

How many pets have you had?

If you could be an animal, what would you (choose to) be? Why?

Think of some people you know. Which animals do they resemble?

What animal do you think is the funniest?

What animal do you think is the strangest-looking?

What animal do you think makes the best pet? Why?

What animal would you like to be?

What animals are you afraid of?

Are there animal rights groups where you live?

What is the largest animal you have ever seen?

What is the most unusual pet you have ever seen?

What is your favorite animal?

Would you ever go on a safari? Why or why not?

## **Art**

If you are lucky enough to meet someone with an interest in art, you have a wealth of conversational opportunities just waiting to be discussed!

Can you draw pictures well?

Do you believe what art critics say?

Do you consider yourself a good artist?

Do you enjoy your art class at school?

Do you like modern art?

Do you like paintings?

Do you like sketching?

Do you like to visit art museums?

Do you like woodcarving?

Do you prefer using watercolors or oil paint?

Do you think music and dancing are forms of art?

Do you think of cartoons and comics as art?

Do you visit museums when you visit other areas?

Have you ever been to any famous art museums?

What art form do you like best?

What famous painters do you know?

How would you define 'art'?

What is the longest time you've ever spent on a painting?

What is your favorite art web site?

Could you imagine life without art?

Who is your favorite painter?

Do you enjoy taking photographs?

What things do you like to photograph?

Do you consider photography an art form?

Why is art important?

Why do people become professional artists?

Have you ever participated in any art competitions?

Do you have a favorite painting?

If so, what is it?

Why do you like it?

Do you have a sketchbook?

If so, how often do you use it?

What kind of sketches do you make?

Do you feel proud after finishing a work of art?

Do you think graffiti is art?

Do you agree with this statement? Graffiti is a form of expression.

How often do you doodle?

What are you usually doing when you begin to doodle?

What do your doodles usually look like?

# \*\*\* RECOMMENDED SITE \*\*\*

**Date.com** - Looking for a serious relationship? Date.com boasts an impressive number of marriages per year as a result of their online dating services. Not only can you meet someone special, you can enjoy Date.com community social events throughout the year.

# **Entertainment**

Everyone has an interest in some sort of pop culture! From television and music to the movies and gambling, you are sure to find something in common to talk about!

Do you like to watch cartoons?

What is your favorite TV show?

Why do you like it?

When is it on?

Do you listen to classical music? Why or why not?

Have you ever been to a play? If so, when was the last time?

Have you ever been to Disneyland/Disneyworld?

Have you ever been to the theater?

Have you collected any autographs? Whose and why?

Have you ever used a slot machine?

How far in advance do you begin planning a vacation?

How often do you go to parties?

Should books be censored?

Should movies be rated? Why or why not?

What are some good books that you have read?

What is the best book you have ever read?

Has any book had a major impact on you?

What are some things you can do without spending a cent?

Do you play computer games? Why or why not? Which are your favorites?

What do you do in your spare time?

What do you like to do on a night out?

What do you think of soccer? (baseball, hang gliding, ...)

What is your favorite game? Why?

What is your favorite holiday? Why?

What kind of music do you like?

What kind of things do you like to read?

What singer would you most like to meet?

What was the last book you read?

What is your favorite holiday and why?

What's your favorite magazine? (What are some of your favorite magazines?)

When do you usually listen to the radio?

Where do you usually read?

Who are some of your favorite actors and actresses?

Who do you think is the funniest comedian?

Who is your favorite author?

Who is your favorite musician?

Who is your favorite female singer?

Who is your favorite male singer?

Who is your favorite guitarist?

Would you rather go to a bar or a nightclub?

What do you do for fun?

What was the best bargain you ever found?

## **Environment and Pollution**

While politics should be avoided, some people live and breathe their convictions when it comes to the environment and preservation. If the conversation should turn in that direction, you can prevent getting into heated discussions with your own arsenal of topic changing ideas! Who knows- you may just learn a thing or two!

Do you think people should recycle newspapers? Why or why not?

Do you think there are lessons to learn from nature?

How do you think that the world changed since you were a child? (technology, values, environment, health)

If humans are really intelligent and not simply manipulated by their genes like any other animal, why can't they do anything about overpopulation??

What are some things that you recycle?

What are some types of pollution?

What are some ways that you can reduce pollution?

What can you do to help prevent pollution?

Which is more important, increasing people's standard of living, or protecting the environment?

Who do you think is more responsible for pollution, individual people or the government?

Do you usually drink bottled water? Why or Why not?

If you could choose one alternative energy source to develop which one would you

choose? Why?

Are companies more or less environmentally responsible now than they were in the past? Why do you think that is?

Do you think recycling is an important community service?

What is the main problem with renewable energy sources?

What can large cities do to improve their air quality?

Do you think overpopulation is an important environmental issue? Why or why not?

What can we do to protect forests?

#### \*\*\* RECOMMENDED SITE \*\*\*

AdultFriendFinder - "Adult" is the key word when thinking about AdultFriendFinder.com! Intended for mature and ready audiences, AdultFriendFinder.com hooks you up with exactly the type of action you're looking for. Set your inhibitions free and enjoy!.

# **Family**

While most times family can be a safe subject, there are a few occasions when someone may have experienced a childhood trauma you may not know about. To keep the conversation light, stick to light questions and it is generally good to avoid too many questions about parents!

Are friends more important than family? What do you think?

What is something your parents used to say to you as a child that you swore that you would never say when you were an adult- yet find that you say it all the time now?

Did you ever meet any of your great grandparents?

Do you have any brothers or sisters? If so, how old are they?

Do you look more like your mother or your father?

What was your neighborhood like when you were younger?

When were you born?

What city were you born in?

What was your most memorable childhood experience?

What was your favorite childhood cartoon character?

Do you have a favorite cartoon character as an adult?

Did you ever have an imaginary friend? How would you describe him or her?

Did you like school as a child?

What do you remember about your first day of school?

Did you like school as you got older?

What was your favorite school lunch?

How often did your family move when you were younger?

Who was your most memorable babysitter and why?

Were you a good kid or a bad kid? Would your parents agree?

What were your favorite toys as a kid? Do you still have any of them?

What different things did you want to be when you grew up?

How did you get your name?

Who are you named after?

How many (first) cousins do you have?

How many aunts and uncles do you have?

What are some of your fondest memories of childhood?

What is the best memory you have of your family doing something together?

Who is the black sheep (odd ball) in your family?

What was the most important thing your parents taught you?

If you could have a different number of siblings, what would it be and why?

What was the craziest thing you ever did when you were a kid?

# **Favorites**

Everyone has favorites! Favorites are so popular that there have even been a few songs written about them. Favorites are one of the safest topics you can use in almost any situation. The type of 'favorites' is up to you!

What is your favorite animal?

What is your favorite city?

What is your favorite color?

What is your favorite country? And why?

What is your favorite day of the week? Why?

What is your favorite drink in the summer?

What is your favorite food?

What is your favorite kind of food?

What is your favorite kind of book?

What is your favorite kind of ethnic food?

What is your favorite kind of movie?

What is your favorite kind of music?

What is your favorite magazine?

What is your favorite movie?

What is your favorite radio station?

What is your favorite season? Why?

What is your favorite sport?

What is your favorite time of day?

What is your favorite Web site?

What is your favorite vegetable? Why

(Fruit, meat, salad dressing, etc.)

What's your favorite smell?

What's your favorite word? Why do you like it?

Who is your favorite actor?

Who is your favorite actress?

Who is your favorite athlete?

Who is your favorite character from literature?

Who is your favorite musician?

Who is your favorite singer?

Who is your favorite super-hero? Explain why.

Who was your favorite teacher? Why?

In high school?

In junior high school?

In elementary school?

What was your favorite subject in school?

In high school?

In junior high school?

In elementary school?

Who was your favorite singer when you were younger? How about now?

In place of singer: actor, actress, baseball player, athlete, ...

#### \*\*\* RECOMMENDED SITE \*\*\*

Double Your Dating. We recently discovered a great book called "Double Your Dating" by David DeAngelo. In our opinion, it's the best place for a guy to start who wants to become more successful with women and dating. We're really excited about it, because these days it's definitely not easy for a guy to find dating advice that works. So what makes this book different than everything else out there? Well, mainly David DeAngelo himself.

## **Fears**

While you might not have considered talking about 'fears', you just might want to if the opportunity arises. Most people are afraid of something and are even willing to make fun of it or let you make fun of it, too! The one condition with this topic is that you have to reveal your fears as well. It's only fair.

Are there certain weather conditions that scare you? What are they? Are you afraid of flying?

Are you afraid of ghosts?

Are you afraid of giving a speech in public?

Are you afraid of going to the dentist?

Are you afraid of heights?

Are you afraid of scary movies?

Are you afraid of the dark?

Are you afraid to die? Why?

Are you afraid of getting old? Why?

Do you fear certain insects/animals? Why?

Do you know anyone with a phobia?

Do you like horror movies?

What do you do when you see something frightening?

Is there any person you are afraid of?

Were you afraid of the dark as a child?

What animal scares you the most?

What is the scariest movie you have ever seen?

What was the most frightening experience you've had?

Would you ever face one of your fears for money?

Have you overcome any of your fears?

# **Food**

Chances are you will eventually either meet someone or have a date with someone where you will be enjoying food and/or drink. Use this opportunity to start up some stimulating conversation!

About how many different color foods did you eat for dinner last night?

Do you think about color when you are preparing a meal?

Are there any foods that you wouldn't eat as a child that you eat now?

Are you a good cook?

Are you a vegetarian?

Do you cook? If yes, what food do you cook the most often?

Do you ever skip breakfast? If so, how often and why?

Do you have a favorite bar or cafe? If so, where is it? Why do you like it?

Do you like Chinese food (Indian food, Mexican food, etc.)? Why or why not?

Do you like deep-fried food?

Do you like to eat at fast food restaurants?

What is your favorite junk food?

Do you like to try new food and drinks?

Do you often eat out?

Do you prefer fish or meat?

Do you prefer to eat at a restaurant or at home?

Do you think a vegetarian diet is better than a diet that includes meat?

Do you usually want to eat dessert after dinner?

How often do you eat out?

Where do you usually go?

How often do you go drinking? What's your favorite drink?

What foods do you hate?

What foods do you love?

What foods have you tasted which you will never forget for the rest of your life?

What is one of your favorite foods?

What is the last meal you cooked for someone else?

What is the most expensive meal you have ever eaten?

What is the most expensive restaurant that you have ever been to?

What did you eat there?

When did you go?

Who did you go with?

What is the most unusual thing you've ever eaten? Did it taste good or bad?

What is your favorite dessert?

What special foods do you eat on holidays? (Christmas, New Year's Day, etc.)

# **Discovering Your Date**

You are interested in some one so it only makes sense that you want to know more about him or her! Here are some suggestions to start you on the path to discovery.

What would be the title of your biography?

What's something that people do in traffic that really bothers you?

What is something you wanted to get done today but didn't? Why didn't you get it done?

Do you save old greeting cards and letters or do you throw them all away? Why?

What was the last book you read?

When was the last picnic you went on? Describe how it was?

If you could spend one year contentedly happy yet have no memory of that year afterward, would you want to have that experience? Why or why not?

Do you think that the world will be a better place than it is right now 100 years from now? Why or why not?

What is one of you nicknames? What do you prefer to be called?

How many days could you last in solitary confinement? How would you do it?

What animal are you the most like? Why

Do you squeeze your tube of toothpaste or do you roll it? What is the advantage to your method?

What room in your house best reflects your personality? How?

Do you hum more often or whistle more often? Hum or whistle the answer!

Do you like to cook?

What's your favorite food?

What is something that you won and how did you win it?

When you are home alone, do you wear shoes, socks, slippers or go barefoot?

Are you especially good at one particular thing?

Do you have brothers and sisters?

Are they older or younger than you are?

Do you like baseball (football, soccer, hockey, etc.)?

What three adjectives other people might use to describe your personality?

What was the happiest year of your life?

Do you live alone?

Do you live in a house or an apartment?

Have you ever lived in another country?

What do you like to do more than anything else in the world?

When was the last time you stubbed your toe so hard that it brought tears to your eyes?

How strict are you about the maintenance of you car?

Who is the closest friend you've ever had? Describe that relationship.

Have you ever met a famous person?

What is something you should throw away but can't? How come?

How do you spend your free time?

How often do you get a haircut?

Describe your worst haircut.

Tell me about a favorite event of your adulthood.

Tell me about a favorite event of your childhood.

On a scale of one to 10, how well do you think you sing?

What are your hobbies?

What are you a natural at doing?

What happened to you so that you got 'locked out'?

What do you do? What's your job?

What's the most annoying thing someone could do on a first date?

What kind of food do you like?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of being your height?

What two things could you not do when you were a child, but you can do now?

Where were you born?

Who do you respect the most?

Who has had the most influence in your life?

Would you like to be famous someday? Why or why not?

What is your most unusual morning or nighttime ritual?

What do you want to be doing five years from now?

Are you a 'morning' or 'night' person?

How many cities have you lived in?

What jobs have you done?

What was your first job like? How much did you get paid?

Which do you prefer, sunrises or sunsets?

Are you a task-oriented person or a people oriented person?

Describe a typical day at your current job?

Describe some of the people that you work with?

Describe your first job.

Do you like your boss? Why or why not?

Do you like your job? Why or why not?

If you had to choose between a satisfying job and a well-paid one, which would you choose?

Name three occupations that you could do.

Name three occupations that you could never do?

What are some jobs that you think would be boring?

What are some jobs that you think would be fun?

What are some questions that are frequently asked in a job interview?

# **Music**

It's rare to come across someone who doesn't like some type of music! Strike the right chord with your date and watch the rhythm work it's own magic.

About how many CDs do you have?

Are you a good dancer?

Are you a good singer?

Can you concentrate on other things when you are listening to music?

Can you play a musical instrument?

If so, what do you play?

How long have you been playing?

Are you good at it?

Can you read music?

Do you enjoy music videos?

Do you ever listen to MP3 files on your computer?

Do you like all kinds of music?

Do you like country music?

Do you like jazz?

Do you like to listen to classical music?

Do you like to listen to country music?

Do you like to listen to Broadway musicals?

Do you like punk music?

Do you like singing karaoke? How often do you sing karaoke?

Do you like to dance?

Do you listen to music while working?

Have you ever been to a concert?

Have you ever been to a rock concert?

Have you ever been to an orchestra concert?

Have you ever taken part in a singing competition?

How often do you listen to music?

If you could play any musical instrument, what would it be?

If you could start a band, what type of music would you play? Why?

Is there any kind of music that you hate?

Should music lyrics be rated similar to the way movies are rated?

What are some concerts you have been to?

What do you think the world would be like without music?

What do you think of manufactured bands? Can you name any?

What is one of your favorite songs? Why do you like it?

When did you first hear it?

Who sings it?

What kind of music do you listen to cheer you up?

What radio station do you usually listen to?

What was the last CD you bought?

What was your favorite music 5 years ago? 10 years ago? How have your musical tastes changed?

When was the last time you went dancing?

When was the last time you went to a concert?

Is the image of the group or singer more important than the music?

Do you mind singing in front of other people?

Do you prefer rock music or romantic music?

Do you think music can be therapeutic?

Do you think that animals can enjoy music? Why?

# **Sports**

Believe it or not, sports appeal to both men and women! You would be hardpressed to find any one individual who didn't have some kind of sports interest. Sports make a fun and safe conversation topic for just about any situation.

Do you like to ski?

If so, when did you start?

How often do you ski?

Who taught you to ski?

Are you a member of any sports team? If not, have you ever been?

Are you good at sports?

What sports are you good at?

Do you often play sports?

Do you know how to play golf?

Do you like to exercise?

Do you like playing tennis?

Do you like to snowboard?

Do you like to watch sports on TV? Which ones?

Do you like watching car races?

Do you like wrestling?

Do you think athletes earn enough money, not enough money or too much money?

Do you think playing sports helps people work better as a team at work?

Have you ever been to watch a professional game?

Is it good that professional sport is so commercial nowadays?

Were you on a sports team in high school?

Were you on any sports teams in high school?

What do you think is the most dangerous sport?

What new sports would you like to try?

What sport do you think is the most dangerous?

What sport do you think is the most expensive?

What sports did you do in junior high school?

How about high school?

What sports do you follow?

What sports do you watch?

What sports do you hate to watch?

What sports do you like to play?

What sports do you like to watch live?

What's a sport that you don't like? Why don't you like it?

Where is the nearest stadium to your house?

Who is your favorite professional athlete? Why?

Would you rather go swimming or skiing?

How do you feel about extreme sports? Would you like to try any of these?

In some cultures, fishing is a sport. Do you think that it is?

#### \*\*\* RECOMMENDED SITE \*\*\*

**SexyAds** You'll find it almost too easy to make all of your fantasies reality with SexyAds.com. Thousands of adults just like you are waiting to begin friendships and relationships designed to meet a variety of needs. Find love, sex and more at SexyAds.com.

# **Supernatural**

Do you and your date or romantic interest have an interest in the paranormal? How about asking just a few questions for fun? You'll find that most people have a definitive opinion about everything that has to do with the supernatural!

Do you believe in ghosts?

Do you believe that dead people come return as ghosts?

Would you talk to a ghost?

Do you know anyone who has said that they have seen a ghost?

Have you ever seen a ghost?

What is the scariest ghost story you know?

Do you know of any local place that is said to be haunted? What is that story? Have you ever been to that place?

Do you believe that houses can be haunted?

Were you ever touched or physically harmed by a ghost or "spirit"? If so, how?

If you could haunt something or someone, who or what would it be?

If you don't believe in ghosts, why not?

Do you think that there is truth behind superstitions?

Do you walk under ladders?

What do you consider to be lucky?

What do you consider to be unlucky?

Do you have a lucky number?

Have you ever gone to a psychic? If so, what happened?

Do you know anyone that has ever been to a psychic?

Do you believe in horoscopes?

Do you think that dreams come true?

Do you believe that dreams have significant meanings?

Do you think that some people can predict the future?

Has anything ever happened to you that you cannot explain?

Do you believe in reincarnation?

Do you believe in ESP?

Do you believe in aliens?

Do you believe in angels?

Do you believe in witchcraft?

What is the most frightening experience that you've ever had?

Do you like scary stories?

# **Travel**

Most everyone has gone somewhere - even if it's just the adjacent town! Find out about his or her experiences and what it is that interests him or her. You may learn more than you intended!

Have you ever been abroad? If so, where?

Could you live in another country for the rest of your life?

Describe the most interesting person you met on one of your travels.

Describe your best trip.

Describe your worst trip.

Do you prefer summer vacations or winter vacations?

Do you prefer to travel alone or in a group? Why?

Do you prefer to travel by train, bus, plane or ship?

Have you ever gotten lost while traveling?

How many countries have you been to? How many states?

If you were going on a camping trip for a week, what 10 things would you bring?

What are some things that you always take with you on a trip?

What countries would you most like to visit?

Do you speak any foreign languages?

# **Education**

You never know if you might run into a teacher, a student or a teacher who is a student! Education is a hot topic and most people have something to say about various aspects. Take your seat and learn all you can.

Do you think teachers are paid enough?

Do you think it is easier to learn as a child or as an adult?

What are the qualities of a good student?

What are the qualities of a good teacher?

What do you study? What's your major?

What is your favorite class?

What was (or is) your favorite subject? Why do you like it?

Why do you think people become teachers?

Would you consider studying abroad?

What do you think about home schooling?

Do you know anyone who was home schooled?

Does education guarantee a good job?

Should education be free?

# **Topics to Avoid**

Now that you've got your ideas for acceptable conversation, you need to keep in mind some topics that should be avoided especially at the first meeting or on the first few dates.

Never ask, "Am I your type?"

Never ask, "How do you like me so far?"

Health problems (yours, your friends and your family's)

Excessive technical information

Any information about ex's including comparisons

Any stories that relate any negative experiences

What you did today. It's okay if he or she asks, but don't offer this information.

Asking questions about his or her past

Very personal questions

# **Body Language**

The one thing that could make your first impression complete is to understand body language. You should not only understand his or her body language, but you should also be aware of what your actions are saying about you.

When you approach your date or the individual you plan to speak to, be sure to hold yourself upright. It will make you appear self-confident yet not aloof. Do not rush as you approach. Make all of your motions slow and unhurried. If you drink slowly, speak slowly and even blink slowly, you are letting the other person know that you are confident and comfortable.

Remember that you are in control of the conversation! You don't have to respond unless you make the decision to respond. You can even control how you react by pausing every once in a while. You are trying to make a good impression and he or she may be trying to make you feel uncomfortable or test you to see if you are 'for real'. Maintain your self-control and stay in charge of all that is going on.

If you find that you are feeling nervous and that your smooth talking has turned to rapid chatter, you are going to loose his or her interest. Any fast-talking will make him or her aware of how nervous you are and it can also make you seem untrustworthy. Nervous hand gestures or other telling signs will have the same negative affect on any conversation. Do what you can to keep your cool and remain steady.

Maintain eye contact the entire time you are talking. Be sure you don't glare or blatantly stare! Keep eye contact with a keen interest and a flirtatious look in your eyes. If he or she breaks eye contact first, you can feel comfortable to take a glance around before regaining your eye contact. This shows him or her that you are comfortable and have no fear in this situation.

For more ideas on body language and how to use it to your advantage, you can find a huge assortment of books available on the subject. If you prefer, you can also observe the men and women who seem to be very successful when they deal with members of the opposite sex. Take note of their body movements and how the other person reacts. You can also watch movies with some of the smoothest actors in them for tips on how to act when with someone you are interested in!

While there are many conversation topics for you right here, you can certainly come up with many on your own! Some of these ideas may even inspire your own original conversation topics. However you come about your dating game plan, you have the tools and the skills you need in order to have enjoyable, interesting and enlightening conversation with anyone! Be sure to take the information from this book with you as well as your own personal touches along with you on your next night out on the town or date. Armed with your own super conversation topics, you have already increased your chance of successfully meeting someone special and having great dates!