

Do you want to sound more like a native speaker of English?

You need the key phrases and the conversational tools native speakers use to get their message across.

Collins Speaking helps you become a confident and fluent speaker by choosing the right words, pronunciation and tone.


- Key phrases give you the language people really use when they are speaking
 - Cultural notes help you focus on *how* to get your message across
 - Audio CD contains model conversations and speaking practice exercises
- » starting conversations » changing the subject
» interrupting » saying no politely
» making suggestions » keeping conversations going



Collins English for Life
B1+ Intermediate series



Collins English for Life
A2 Pre-intermediate series

 You can trust Collins COBUILD

Collins Speaking contains an extended learning section providing you with information on usage and collocations for key vocabulary items in the conversations. This information is based on COBUILD content. The 4.5-billion-word Collins Corpus is the world's largest database of the English language. It is updated every month and has been at the heart of Collins COBUILD for over 20 years.

CEF level: B1+

Suitable for self-study and classroom use

Helps towards Cambridge FCE preparation

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B1+ Intermediate

Speaking



Cheryl Pelteret



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THÀNH PHỐ HỒ CHÍ MINH**

NTV

**Công ty TNHH
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Collins

English for Life Speaking

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About the author

Cheryl Pelteret has been involved in language teaching for the past 30 years – as a teacher, an editor, and a writer. After completing her degree at the University of Cape Town and teaching English as a first and second language, she obtained her RSA Diploma in TEFL and taught students of all ages and levels in the UK and in Turkey. She worked for several years as an editor in the ELT publishing industry before becoming a writer. She has written several course books and a range of supplementary materials for adults, teenagers, and young learners. She has a particular interest in helping students to achieve fluency in speaking. She has a Post-graduate Certificate in Teaching ESOL and divides her time between writing and teaching ESOL to adults.

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INTRODUCTION

Collins English for Life: Speaking will help you to improve your spoken English in a variety of everyday situations and contexts.

You can use *Speaking*

- as a self-study course
- as supplementary material on a general English course

Speaking will help you to develop your speaking skills in different areas, including

- starting, continuing, directing, adding to, and ending informal conversations
- dealing with interruptions in a conversation
- asking for clarification; emphasizing
- making and responding to requests, suggestions, and complaints
- sharing opinions
- giving and accepting advice, compliments, and negative news

Speaking comprises a book and a CD. The book has 20 units.

At the back of the book, there are:

- useful extra information from the Collins COBUILD corpus about the key vocabulary items in the conversation(s) of each unit
- the glossary
- the answer key
- the audio scripts

The CD contains over 100 audio tracks including conversations and listening and speaking practice activities.

Using *Speaking*

You can either work through the units, from Unit 1 to Unit 20, or you can pick and choose the units that are most useful to you. The contents page will help you in your selection of units and your own plan for learning.

For ease of use, each of the 20 units follows the same format. It is recommended that you follow the order of exercises when working through a unit. Each unit includes

Useful tips – This section gives you helpful advice about the communication focus of the unit.

Conversation(s) – You listen to and read a conversation or conversations. Key words, phrases, and sentences are presented in bold.

Understanding – You check your understanding of the conversation(s).

Saying it accurately – You focus on using the right words and phrases.

Saying it clearly – This section helps you to focus on pronouncing the words, phrases, and sentences well.

Saying it appropriately – The focus of this section is on tone, for example, making sure you sound polite or interested.

Get speaking – The exercises in this section give you the opportunity to practise speaking. Often, this involves interacting with a speaker on the CD in a role-play.

There are also **Language note** and **Cultural note** in several of the units.

Study tips

- Each unit should take about sixty minutes to work through. Take regular breaks and do not try to study for too long. Thirty minutes is a good length for one learning session.
- Revise and go over what you have learnt regularly.
- Put the audio tracks on your mobile phone or MP3 player so you can listen to the conversations and practice activities on your way to work or when you are out jogging or walking.
- Try to find someone with whom you can practise your English, either face to face, over the phone or online using a webcam.
- Note down the language you find most useful.

Language level

Speaking has been written to help learners at B1 level and above (Intermediate to Advanced).

Other titles

Also available in the *Collins English for Life* series: *Listening*, *Reading*, and *Writing*



Using the CD

This icon indicates that there is an audio track that you should listen to. The *Speaking* CD may be used with either a computer or a CD player.

1

STARTING AN INFORMAL CONVERSATION



USEFUL TIPS

A successful small talk isn't about saying brilliant things. It's about commenting on and asking about ordinary things with interest and enthusiasm.

- Try to find something in common with your listener.
- Try to match the mood of your listener. Don't try to be light-hearted if they seem serious.
- Don't answer in one-word sentences. Try to give more information or say something interesting about where you come from, your job, etc.
- Remember to ask questions, too – don't just talk about yourself.

Conversations

Listen to these extracts from three conversations.

1

- A: So, how do you and Jack know each other? Are you colleagues?
B: No, we've known each other since we were kids, actually. We went to school together.
A: Really? Where are you from?
B: Oh, a little village in Suffolk. Not many people have heard of it!
A: What's it called? I'm from that part of the world, too.

2

- C: Hi, I'm David.
D: Nice to meet you. I'm Harry. I work at the same company as Jack.
C: What exactly do you do?
D: I'm an accountant. What about you?
C: I'm a teacher. I teach French at a local secondary school.
D: I thought you were French! How long have you been in this country?
C: Oh, for about five years now. I love it here.

- E: Oh, that journey took me forever!
 F: How did you get here?
 E: By bus from Piccadilly Circus.
 F: It's a long way, isn't it? How long did it take?
 E: About an hour. But it's a great route – it takes you right past the new Olympic stadium. Have you seen it yet?
 F: No, I've heard so much about it though. Tell me, is it really as amazing as they say?

Understanding

Look at the conversation strategies outlined in *Useful Tips* again. Match the conversations to the strategies they illustrate successfully.

- Conversation 1: a Try to find something in common with your listener.
 Conversation 2: b Try to match the mood of your listener.
 Conversation 3: c Try to give more information or say something interesting about where you come from, your job, etc.
 d Remember to ask questions, too.

Saying it accurately

1 Complete the sentences with words from the box.

-, how do you and Jack know each other?
- are you from?
- to meet you.
- What do you do?
- How have you been in this country?
- It's a long way, it?
- did you get here?
- I've so much about it.
- me, is it really as amazing as they say?
- It interesting.

exactly	heard
how	long
isn't	looks
nice	so
tell	where