

10 Starting conversations

The best way to begin a conversation is to ask questions.

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QUESTION

Where are you from?
Where do you come from?
How long have you been here?
Have you been here long?
Where are you staying?
When did you get here?
How long are you staying?
How long will you be staying?
How do you like it here?
What do you think of (L.A.)?
What are you here for?
Why are you here?

Are you here on (business)?

RESPONSE

I'm from (Mexico). I come from (Brazil). I've been here since (January).

I've been here for (three days).

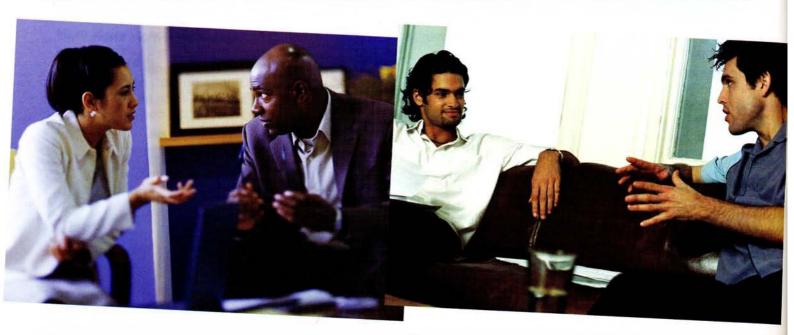
At the (Crowne Plaza Hotel). I got here (two days ago).

Until next (Sunday). For another (five days).

It's very (nice / interesting). I like it (very much / a lot).

I'm (visiting customers). I'm (here on business).

I'm here (for the convention).



- 1 1.26 Listen to Julie and Consuela, and check (/) the questions in the table that you hear.
- Look at the two photographs of people. Each choose a different person from one of the photographs. Then write imaginary facts about the person, that will answer the questions in the chart above. Don't show your list of facts to your partner.
- 3 Use your list of facts and ask and answer questions for each picture.

- 4 Invent a character. Write a list of facts about them in the same way.
- 5 Imagine you are that character. Circulate around the class and introduce yourself to others. Ask them questions about themselves. Answer questions about your imaginary character.

Culture File 10 Starting conversations