

Emailing problems and solutions

Take turns asking for advice on the email questions/ problems on the next page, giving feedback on your partner's advice each time and asking for more advice if you don't like any of the ideas. There are (mixed) ideas for advice, but you can also use your own ideas.

Ask about anything which isn't clear about the problems/ questions, suggestions, feedback language, etc.

Rank advice language and feedback language from the strongest/ most positive top to the most negative bottom, with ones with the same meaning next to each other.

Giving advice/ recommendations/ suggestions language	Feedback on advice/ recommendations/ suggestions phrases
Most positive	Most positive
Most negative	Most negative

Work together to write similar advice on smooth face-to-face communication in English, on topics like:

- meeting people for the first time
- meeting people again
- being polite
- being friendly
- business cards
- giving and asking for names
- small talk
- body language (shaking hands, etc)
- responses/ reactions
- finishing the small talk
- ending conversations

Then get feedback on your advice from other groups.



Email subject lines/ titles questions/ problems

• I need to send a copy of emails to my boss so that they know what I'm doing, but they don't need to take any action and maybe don't need to read the email.

Email opening greetings questions/ problems

- I don't know the name of the person who I'm writing to.
- I don't know if the person who I am writing to is male or female from their name.
- I don't know if I should use "Mrs" or "Miss" to write to a woman.
- They finished their email with their full name, and I'm not sure which part of their name is their family name and which part is their first name.
- I'm not sure if I should use their first name or family name in my reply.
- I need to write an email to many people who I don't know well.
- I need to write an email to many people who I know well.

Email opening lines questions/ problems

- I need to introduce myself for the first time in an email, but emails starting with "My name is..." seem like spam such as phishing scams.
- I'm writing to someone after a very long time with no contact.
- I want to start a formal email with a friendly opening line, but "How...?" seems too casual after "Dear Mr..." or "Dear Ms..."
- I want to start a casual email with a friendly opening line, and "How are you?" doesn't seem friendly enough.

The body of emails questions/ problems

- I think that "Can...?" is not polite enough for this request email.
- I want to make sure that they notice the attachment.
- I want to emphasise important information in the email (without being rude/ too forceful).
- I'm not sure when I should start a new paragraph in the body.

Email closing lines questions/ problems

- I need a reply./ I need a quick reply./ I need a reply by a particular time.
- I want to politely show them that I think no more emails are necessary (at this time).
- I'm not sure if I should write "Thank you for your cooperation" or "Thank you in advance".
- I'm not sure how to end a thanking email, as "Thanks" at the end sounds like a request.

Email closing greetings questions/ problems

I'm not sure which closing greeting is exactly the right level of formality for my reply.

Name at the end of emails questions/ problems

- People often write back to me with the wrong title (because I have a unisex name).
- People often mix up which parts of my name are my family name and my first name.
- It saves time to have my (full) name in my automatic email signature, but that makes it too formal for most of my emails.



What do you think I should do?/ Do you have any advice?/ What would you write?			
How about(ing)	add	after two or three sentences	
I suggest that you	avoid	capital letters	
If I were you, I would	be careful about	command/ order/ instructions	
What about(ing)	begin with	(family/ first/ full) name	
Why don't you	check	in the body	
You could	сору	request/ asking for help	
You must	decide	the closing greeting in their email	
You mustn't	do that	their name at the end	
You really must	end with	they use only their first name at the end	
You really should	finish with	with a new topic	
You should	include	write your name again before the signature	
You should always	not use	your title (in brackets) after your name	
You should probably	not worry about	"Could (possibly)?"	
You shouldn't	remove	"Dear + full name"	
	start with	"Dear all"	
	think about	"Dear Sir or Madam"	
	try	"for your information/ reference"/ "FYI"	
	use	"Hi everyone"/ "Hi guys"	
	write	"How are you doing?"/ "How's it going?"	
		"How was your trip to New York?"	
		"I am writing to you about/ to/ because"	
		"I hope you are well/ this email finds you well"	
		"I hope"	
		"I was asked to write to you by"	
		"I was given your address by"	
		"I would be grateful if"	
		"I'm looking forward to hearing from you"	
		"I've attached"	
		"If you need any more info, just let me know"	
		"GOMI, Jun (Mr)"/ "Jun GOMI (Mr)"	
		"Ms"	
		"Please find attached"	
		"Please note that"/ "NB"	
		"Please see the attached for more details"	
		"Sorry to write to you out of the blue, but."	
		"Sorry to write to you out of the blue, but…" "Speak to you soon"/ "Talk to you soon"	
		"Thanks again"	
		"Thanks for your patience/ understanding"	
		"To: All"	
I'm afraid I don't think t	I'm afraid I don't think that will, because Do you have any other ideas?		

I'm afraid I don't think that will..., because... Do you have any other ideas? That's a good idea. I'll do that.

Well, I'm not sure about that, because...

Yes, that might work./ Yes, that might be suitable.