

Past Simple- Small Talk Questions

Choose one of the questions below which is really suitable to ask your partner. Ask a grammatically correct version of the question that you have chosen to your partner (just speaking for now, not writing), adding "you" if necessary. If there is no *wh-* question word, you need to make a yes/ no question. Listen to their response and ask follow-up questions if you like. Then switch roles and take turns asking similar questions.

Probably realistic questions

How _____ (be) your weekend?
That's a nice... Where _____ (buy) it?
What time _____ (finish) work last night?
What time _____ (get home) last night?
What time _____ (get to) work today?
When _____ (start) your present job?
Where _____ (last go) on holiday (= vacation)?

_____ (have) a good weekend?
_____ (do) the last homework?
_____ (have) time for breakfast this morning?
_____ (hear) the news about...?
_____ (go out) for dinner/ drinks/... last night?
_____ (see) anything good on TV last night?
How _____ (be) your journey here today?

Possibly realistic and possibly unrealistic questions

_____ (see) the game/ match between... and ... at the weekend/ last night/ yesterday/ on Saturday?
_____ (go) to the meeting about... yesterday/ on Monday?
_____ (come) to the last class?
Where _____ (come) from today?

Probably unrealistic/ imaginary situations

_____ (have) any trouble finding us?
_____ (have) any problems getting here?
_____ (have) a good flight?
Who _____ (fly) with?
When _____ (arrive) in Tokyo?
When _____ (get back) from...?

Do the same with the less realistic questions above, this time with your partner using their imagination when they answer.

Work together to fill the gaps above with the correct tenses and "you".

Check your answers as a class, then ask any each other questions that you got wrong or didn't ask before.

Do the same, but imagining that it is the beginning of a meeting, starting from "Hello" and continuing until you get down to business.