

Social English

For many of you, it's been a few weeks since you last met up with your friends and colleagues. For others, you might have spent this time at home reconnecting virtually with long-lost friends from all over the world. I sure did! If you haven't, don't be afraid to try it out now.

The best way to improve your social English is to practise in real life and find out which words or phrases you tend (neigen dazu) to use when making small talk. Knowing a few phrases would also be very handy (Remember this false friend?) in preparing you for such a scenario.

Today, we are going to look at some common phrases you can use in every situation. You might already know some of them, but challenge yourself to pick the answer you think sounds best, before looking at the answer key!



Pick the best answer.

1. You have a visitor waiting for you at the entrance of your building. You know that he is a colleague from Spain and he just touched down today. The first thing you say to him is:
 - a) Hi, it's Anette Terlutter. You ok?
 - b) Hi, my name is Anette Terlutter. Nice to meet you.
 - c) Hi, who are you?
2. You have introduced yourselves to each other. The next thing you could ask is:
 - a) How is the weather?
 - b) Where is your bag?
 - c) How was your flight?
3. You bring him to the meeting room and tell him to have a seat. Then you could say:
 - a) You want some water?
 - b) Would you like something to drink?
 - c) Are you thirsty?
4. You bring him his coffee with 2 sugars, no milk. You pass it to him and say:
 - a) Here you are.
 - b) Please.
 - c) You're welcome.
5. You finish your meeting and you stand up to shake your colleague's hand. You say this:
 - a) Thanks. We see us next week.
 - b) Thank you. Bye.
 - c) Thank you for your time. See you next week.

Answer key:
1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. c