

2B MAKING SMALL TALK

1 Work with a partner. Look at the topics below. Which ones is it normal to talk about in your country when you meet someone from abroad for the first time?

work the journey money the visitor's country
family politics interests holidays

2 **A▶2.3** Listen to Dan Ford meeting Jozef Dropinski at the airport. Which topics from 1 do they talk about?



5 Work with a partner. Using some of the phrases in the table in 4, make three questions to ask your partner. Then take turns asking and answering them.

6 **V▶1** In this video, Maria has just started a new job. Watch the video and answer the questions.

- 1 What is Maria waiting for?
- 2 What do Maria and Monica talk about?
- 3 What are their jobs?
- 4 What do they have in common?

7 **V▶1** Maria and Monica keep their conversation going by asking each other questions and showing interest. Watch again and make a note of the questions they ask.

Maria	
Monica	

8 Think of three more questions you could ask a new colleague to find out more about them or the company. Work with a partner and have a short conversation. Start off by using your questions, then keep the conversation going with some follow-up questions. Use the flow chart below to help you if necessary.

3 **A▶2.3** Complete the questions from the conversation in 2 with *do*, *did*, or *are*. Then listen and check your answers.

- 1 _____ you have a good flight?
- 2 _____ you often travel abroad on business?
- 3 _____ you see the Alhambra?
- 4 What _____ you think of it?
- 5 _____ you interested in architecture?
- 6 When _____ you usually take your holiday?

4 Complete the table with the questions in 3.

Asking about a journey	Asking about experiences
How was your journey? Was the flight delayed? _____	Is this your first time in Tokyo? Have you been here before? _____
Asking about habits	Asking about opinions / interests
Do you ever go skiing? _____ _____	What kind of music do you like? _____ _____

A ASK B A QUESTION.

B ANSWER.

A ASK A FOLLOW-UP QUESTION.

B ANSWER AND THEN ASK A QUESTION TO A.

A ANSWER.

B ASK A FOLLOW-UP QUESTION.

9 When you have finished your conversation, tell the rest of the class what you found out about your partner.

Source: Business Essentials B
Oxford University Press, 2012