

Speaking: requests, invitations and mini-interviews

A short conversation works best when speakers respond to each other. Practise a polite classroom request, an invitation after school and a mini-interview about a routine. Use the written models, then change the details with a partner.

Anglais 1AC - Supplementary practice - Updated 27/10/2026

Learning goals

- Decide what your conversation should achieve
- Requests, invitations and useful replies
- Listen to the answer before asking a follow-up

1. How do I make a polite request or invite someone in English?

Use *Can I... please?* to ask permission and *Would you like to...?* to invite someone. Use *Let's* followed by a base verb for a suggestion. Respond to the invitation, then ask a useful follow-up about the time or place rather than starting an unrelated question.



Use please in a polite request.

2. Decide what your conversation should achieve

Can I...? asks for permission: *Can I open the window, please?* *Let's + base verb* makes a suggestion: *Let's play chess.* *Would you like to...?* makes an invitation. Accept with *Yes, I'd love to* or decline politely with *Sorry, I can't.*

In an interview, ask one question at a time and listen to the answer before continuing. Use *What time...?* for a clock time, *Where...?* for a place and *What...?* for an activity. A follow-up such as *And on Sunday?* shows that the next turn connects to what the partner said.

3. Requests, invitations and useful replies

Purpose	Question or suggestion	Possible reply
Request	Can I borrow a pencil, please?	Yes, here you are.
Invitation	Would you like to play chess?	Yes, I'd love to.
Routine	What do you do after school?	I read at home.

4. A complete reading-club conversation



Use Let's + base verb for a suggestion.

Read and explain this example

A: Would you like to visit the reading club? B: Yes, I'd love to. What time does it start? A: At four on Wednesday.
B: Where does it meet? A: In the school library. B: Great. Let's meet near the door.

5. Listen to the answer before asking a follow-up

A dialogue is an exchange, not two memorised lists. If a partner says the club starts at four, asking What time does it start? immediately afterwards shows that you did not use the answer. Ask where it meets instead. A polite refusal can stay brief: Sorry, I can't. Learners do not have to invent personal explanations. When rehearsing, keep the purpose of the conversation and change the details so that the language remains useful beyond one script.



Answer the partner and ask one follow-up question.

Check this

This activity provides dialogue scripts and speaking prompts without an audio file. Practise first while reading, then cover the script and keep the same purpose with new details.

Put the idea into practice

1. Choose a purpose: permission, invitation or an interview detail.
2. Practise the model with a partner, making each reply answer the previous turn.
3. Cover the script and repeat with a different activity, time or place.

Remember

- Use please in a polite request.
- Use Let's + base verb for a suggestion.
- Answer the partner and ask one follow-up question.

Practice - Try before checking

Answer in your notebook. Use evidence from the examples and check your sentences.

Exercise 1. Match the purpose

Identify request, invitation or suggestion: Let's read. Can I sit here? Would you like to come?

Exercise 2. Repair a line

Correct: Let's to play. Can I borrows a pen?

Exercise 3. Role-play

Make a four-turn invitation dialogue with a time and a place.

Exercise 4. Continue the conversation

A partner says Yes, I'd like to. It starts at four. Add a suitable follow-up and a possible reply.

Explained answers

Exercise 1. Match the purpose

Suggestion; request; invitation. The opening pattern signals the purpose.

Exercise 2. Repair a line

Let's play. Can I borrow a pen? Both patterns take a base verb.

Exercise 3. Role-play

Example: Would you like to play chess? Yes, when? At five in the library. Great, see you there. Check that the reply responds to the question.

Exercise 4. Continue the conversation

Example: Where does it meet? In the school library. The follow-up asks for missing information instead of asking the already supplied time again.

Frequently asked questions

How do I make a polite request or invite someone in English?

Use Can I... please? to ask permission and Would you like to...? to invite someone. Use Let's followed by a base verb for a suggestion. Respond to the invitation, then ask a useful follow-up about the time or place rather than starting an unrelated question.

What comes after Let's?

A base verb: Let's read, Let's play or Let's meet. Do not add to before that verb.

How can I practise speaking without an audio file?

Read a role with a partner, change the details, then repeat without looking. Ask your teacher for help with pronunciation.



MATHFJIB - Anglais 1AC

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