

Course : Oral Expression
Level: 1st Year License
Group: 1B6

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Using Language for Social Functions

Language for social functions refers to the words, phrases, and expressions we use to communicate in everyday social situations. These functions include greeting people, introducing oneself and others, making requests, giving invitations, offering help, apologizing, thanking, expressing agreement or disagreement, and saying goodbye. Using the right expressions helps learners interact politely, appropriately, and effectively in social contexts.

Greetings and Introductions:

- Common phrases for greeting include: “Hello,” “Hi,” “Good morning,” “Good afternoon,” and “How are you?”
- For introducing yourself: “My name is...,” “I am...,” or “I would like to introduce you to...”
- For responding: “Nice to meet you,” or “Pleased to meet you.”
- It is important to match the tone and level of formality to the context, such as casual greetings with friends and formal ones with teachers or strangers.

Making Requests and Offers:

- Requests can be expressed politely using: “Can you...?,” “Could you...?,” “Would you mind...?,” or “Please...”
- Offers can be expressed using: “Would you like...?,” “Can I...?,” or “Do you want me to...?”
- Politeness and tone are key to successful communication. For example: “Could you help me with this assignment, please?” is more appropriate than “Help me with this.”

Invitations and Responses:

- To invite someone: “Would you like to...?,” “Do you want to...?,” or “I’d like to invite you to...”
- Accepting invitations: “Yes, I’d love to,” “That sounds great,” or “Thank you, I’d be happy to come.”
- Declining politely: “I’m sorry, I can’t because...,” or “Thank you, but I already have plans.”

Expressing Gratitude and Apologies:

- To thank someone: “Thank you,” “Thanks a lot,” or “I really appreciate it.”
- Responding to thanks: “You’re welcome,” “No problem,” or “My pleasure.”
- To apologize: “I’m sorry,” “I apologize for...,” or “Please forgive me.”
- Accepting apologies: “That’s okay,” “No problem,” or “Don’t worry about it.”

Expressing Agreement and Disagreement:

- Agreement: “I agree,” “That’s true,” “Exactly,” or “I think so too.”
- Disagreement: “I’m not sure about that,” “I see your point, but...,” or “I don’t think that’s correct.”
- It is important to be polite and respectful when disagreeing, especially in formal or group settings.

Saying Goodbye:

- Common expressions: “Goodbye,” “See you later,” “Take care,” or “Have a nice day.”
- The choice of expression depends on the level of familiarity with the person and the context.

Key Points for Clarity and Appropriateness:

- Match the language and tone to the situation (formal or informal).
- Use polite expressions when requesting, declining, or disagreeing.
- Combine phrases with appropriate gestures, facial expressions, and intonation to communicate effectively.
- Practicing these expressions helps learners interact confidently in social contexts, whether in daily life, school, or workplace situations.

Tips for Practice:

- Role-play everyday situations, such as meeting someone new, inviting a friend to an event, or apologizing for a mistake.
- Listen to or watch conversations in English and identify social function expressions.
- Encourage learners to respond naturally using phrases they have learned.