

6. In relating an incident, beware of back and forth dialogue such as “I said to her and then she said to me...” The sense of what you wish to say can be condensed easily without these phrases.
7. Refrain from slang and worn-out clichés. These devices may make it easier for you to express your self, but they are dull to listening ears.

-Field Service Planner

Content compliments of East Stroudsburg University



# Dragon Roars

Hunt Union • Office of Campus Life • Division of Student Development

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## *Seven Ways to Become a Good Conversationalist*

1. An interesting conversationalist conveys a sense of leaving many things unsaid. Telling everything can be very tiring to the listener.
2. Don't tell an uncomfortable truth if you can avoid it. Check your motives when you feel impelled to voice unpleasant facts. "Be careful of the words you say and keep them soft and sweet; you never know from day to day which ones you'll have to eat."
3. Ask a trusted friend to tell you if you whine, speak shrilly or nastily, or with affected accents. These faults make listening to you a chore. Knowing about them makes them correctable.
4. Don't interrupt the person who has the floor. Raising your voice to get attention is a sure way to turn off others. Waiting your turn makes what you say more interesting when the right moment comes.
5. No matter how brilliant or original you are, if you monopolize a conversation, minds will wander. Hold the conversational ball briefly. Then toss it.