

Telephoning in English discussion and personalised practice

Discuss the questions below in pairs. Your teacher will tell you if you should write notes on your partner, or only speak to each other.

Telephoning in English discussion

When was your last telephone conversation in English? What was it like?

How often do you telephone in English? What are your typical telephone calls in English like (topic, nationality you are speaking to, length, purpose, whether you know the person or not, formality, etc)?

How often do you telephone in your own language? What are your typical telephone calls like (topic, nationality you are speaking to, length, purpose, whether you know the person or not, formality, etc)?

What are the differences between telephone calls in your own language and telephone calls in English?

What are the difficulties of telephoning in English?

What can you do to make telephoning in English easier?

What can you do to prepare for a telephone call?

Telephoning in English personalised practice

Choose one telephone conversation that you have had or are likely to have in English. Describe it to your partner, then roleplay it with you as yourself and your partner as the other person or other people. When you end the call, discuss how you could make it better, then practise the same call again. Discuss if anything could be improved further, then do the same for your partner's typical phone calls. Take turns doing the same until your teacher stops you.