

## Think About the Situation

Ask the student to indicate whether or not he/she would start a conversation in each of the situations below. Then ask the student to explain his/her answer.

1. Dan is walking to the park with his baseball bat. You want to play baseball with him. Should you ask him if you can play on his team?

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2. Marcos just spilled paint on Sally's shoes. You want to talk to Sally about music. Should you start a conversation?

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3. You want to ask your teacher a question. The teacher is talking to another student about a problem. Should you start a conversation now?

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4. Natasha is in the library studying for an important test. Should you start a conversation?

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5. Ann is sitting outside in front of her house. She looks bored. Should you start a conversation?

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6. Tina is walking toward you. She has a smile on her face. Should you start a conversation?

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7. Benjie is talking to a friend on the telephone when you walk into the room. Should you start a conversation?

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8. Elena is taking a nap on a bench in the park. Should you start a conversation?

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9. Leslie is walking with a limp because she fell off her bike. She is in pain. Should you start a conversation?

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10. Elaine is walking quickly. She tells you that she needs to get to the post office before it closes. Should you start a conversation?

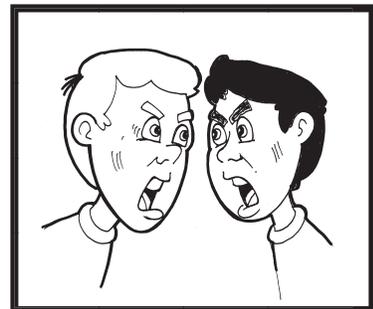
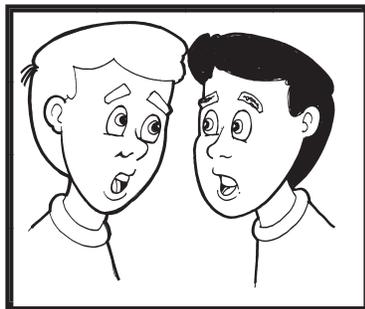
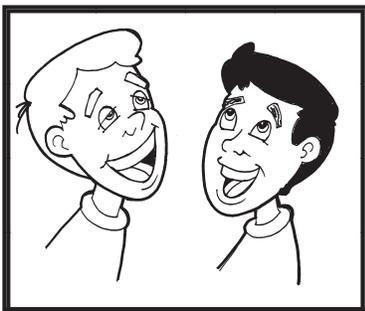
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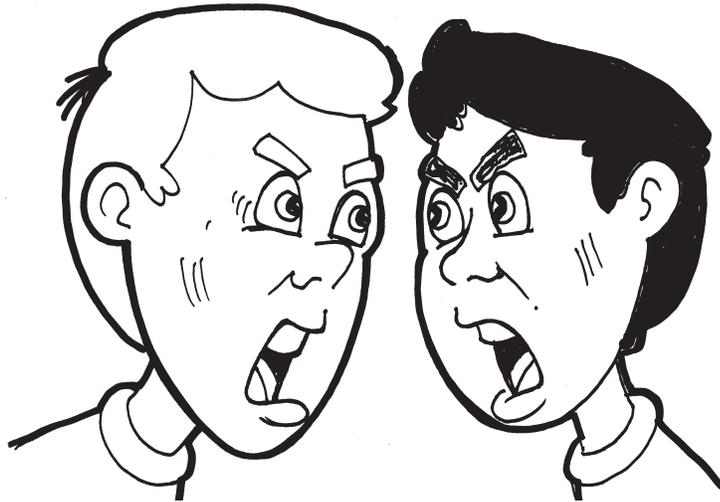
# When to Join a Conversation

Sometimes you may want to join a conversation when you see other people talking. You need to be aware that sometimes even friends don't want to be interrupted. If two of your good friends are talking about a problem, they might need to have a private conversation.

1. Before joining a conversation, pay attention to how the people are talking to one another.
  - Do the people talking have happy faces or sad faces?
  - Are they talking in loud voices or soft voices?
  - Do they look like they are having a serious conversation, or are they having fun?
2. How do the people in the conversation act when you walk toward them? Do the expressions on their faces change? Do they look towards you and smile? Do they look like they do not want to be disturbed.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



**Picture 1**

You have been looking for Carlos all day long. Finally, you see him with Andy. They are both talking in very loud voices. Should you join the conversation? Why or why not?

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**Picture 2**

Andy and Carlos are talking. They both have big smiles on their faces. Should you join the conversation? Why or why not?

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# Changing the Topic



Sometimes you may want to change the topic of a conversation. Before changing the topic, listen carefully to what is being said so that you don't upset anyone by starting a new topic.

1. Wait for others to share what they have to say.

2. Don't interrupt the conversation by making rude comments.

Example: This conversation is boring. Let's talk about something else.

3. Wait for a break in the conversation or ask if you can begin talking about another topic.

4. You can change the topic of conversation with a sentence describing the topic that you want to talk about.

Example: Let's talk about football.

5. You can also change the topic of conversation by asking a question.

Example: Did anyone see the football game on television last night?

6. Try not to control the conversation. Your friends might have topics that they want to talk about.