

Confusing Words

Lesson 10 | Talk or Speak

Talk EXAMPLES

Example Sentences:

They talked at length about plans.

Are David and Saddle talking to Harris again?

Will you try and talk to her? She won't open up to me.

The businessman will be talking to us tomorrow.



Tips for using **Talk**

Use "Talk" when you engage in a conversation with someone

He came to talk to me about his problems, but I didn't know what advice to give him.

I don't know him that well... I don't know what to talk about with him.

We have plenty of things to talk about, it's been a long time since last we met.

Example Dialogue:

Richard : Miya! Wake up! Professor Paxton wants to talk to you!

Miya : Huh? What?

Richard : Wake up! You're going to get in trouble.

Miya : He wants to talk to me? About what? What was he talking about earlier?

DEFINITION:

TALK: to make a conversation or discussion between two or more people

Talk | Talked | Talking

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Speak EXAMPLES

Example Sentences:

I am not speaking to him.

Please speak to Daisy about the problem.

Ally, have you spoken to the secretary yet?

We all speak loud and clear.



Tips for using **Speak**

Use "Speak" when you address a person or an audience, when you refer to the ability or manner of uttering words.

Please, speak louder, I cannot hear you if you speak in such a low register.

I've been learning French my whole life, yet somehow I cannot speak fluently.

I will have to speak in front of our potential clients at the conference, which makes me feel very nervous.

The teacher was speaking to us, but I didn't listen.

Example Dialogue:

Juliet : Mario! Your son, Luigi, got in trouble. The principal would like to speak with you.

Mario : Again? What did he do this time?

Juliet : Well, he threw a crayon at his classmate for teasing him.

Mario : Oh, yes. My wife spoke about it earlier.

DEFINITION:

SPEAK: to say something, especially used for one-sided communication

Speak | Spoke | Spoken | Speaking

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PRACTICE

Answer **talk** or **speak** (in a correct form) to complete the sentences.

1 | Do you think he will _____ to me about the accident?

2 | Think before you _____.

3 | Who is _____? Quiet please!

4 | Can you _____ three languages?

5 | He _____ quietly to her.

6 | Are you going to _____ to them? I am sure they are sorry.

7 | Can I _____ to you for a minute? It's urgent.

8 | Let's _____ about where we are going to be vacationing this summer.

9 | My boss _____ highly of you.

10 | I haven't _____ to my parents for a while.



APPLICATION:

Create your own sentences using **talk** or **speak**.

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EXERCISE

Answer **talk** or **speak** (in a correct form) to complete the sentences.

(Johnny and Drew are planning to start the business.)

Johnny: So what do you think?

Drew : This is a great idea! I mean we are _____ big money here!

Johnny : I know! _____ of money, we need to get a loan from the bank as our startup capital.

Drew : And when are you going to _____ to your accountant?

Johnny : I've already _____ to her; she gave me a couple of options to consider.

Drew : This reminds me, I need to _____ to my lawyer.

Johnny : About what?



APPLICATION:

Create your own dialogue using **talk** or **speak** with your teacher.