

## The Conversation Frame

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A conversation is a verbal interchange between two or more people. Commonly, a conversation has the following components:

1. **Greeting:** some acknowledgement that the parties have not seen each other for a while.
2. **Inquiry:** a question about some general or specific topic.
3. **Discussion:** an elaboration or analysis of the topic. Commonly included in the discussion are one or more of the following:
  - a. **Assertions:** statements of facts by the speaker.
  - b. **Requests:** statements that solicit actions from the listener.
  - c. **Promises:** statements that assert that the speaker will perform certain actions.
  - d. **Demands:** statements that identify specific actions to be taken by the listener.
  - e. **Threats:** statements that specify consequences to the listener if commands are not followed.
  - f. **Congratulations:** statements that indicate the value the speaker puts on something done by the listener.
4. **Conclusion:** the conversation ends in some way.

### Frame Questions

How did the members of the conversation greet each other?

What question or topic was insinuated, revealed, or referred to?

How did their discussion progress?

Did either person state facts?

Did either person make a request of the other?

Did either person demand a specific action of the other?

Did either person threaten specific consequences if demand was not met?

Did either person indicate that he/she valued something that the other had done?

4. How did the conversation conclude?

