***CONVERSATION CLUB***

**LESSON 9**

**Topic: “Closing a conversation”**

**Objective:** Students will be presented to the topic **how to close a conversation** in a polite, culturally accepted way, by using the three essential conversational moves.

## Warm-up: How do you end a conversation in a polite way? Provide some examples.

## Essential moves for closing a conversation:

## Pre-closing

It's been nice talking to you.

It's been great talking with you.

I really enjoyed meeting you.

It was nice meeting you, Mr. Brown.

I'm sorry, but I have to go now.

I'm afraid I have to leave now.

Thanks for the information/ the tour/ your time.

## Thanks for taking the time to talk with us.

## Follow up

I'll give you a call.

I'll send you an e-mail.

I'll put a packet in the mail for you.

We'll send out that information right away.

I'll have my secretary schedule an appointment.

Could you send me a brochure/some more information?

Could I contact you by e-mail/at your office?

How can/do I get in touch with you?

## Closing

I look forward to seeing you again.

We'll see you on Friday.

See you next week.

Let me give you my business card.

Here's my e-mail/office number.

Let's keep in touch by e-mail.

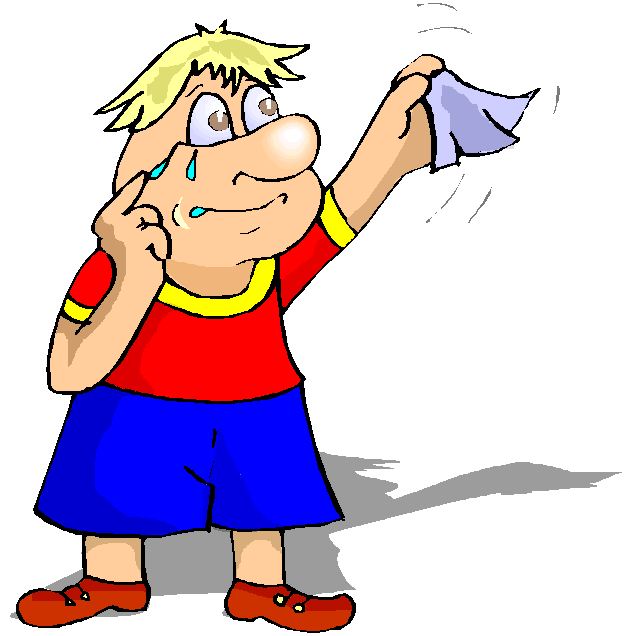
We'll be in touch.

Call me if you have any questions.

E-mail me.

## Activity 1: In the following conversations, identify the 3 moves or steps required to end a conversation in a polite way.

A: Well, it's been nice talking to you.

*B: Nice talking to you too.*

A: (I'll) see you later.

*B: Alright. Bye.*

A: It was nice talking to you.   
B: Why are you trying to rush me off the phone?  
A: I really have to go.   
B: Why? I still wanted to talk to you.   
A: I have things to do.  
B: Like what?  
A: Don't be nosey.  
B: I'm not. I just want to know.  
A: Well, it's really none of your business.  
B: That's harsh.   
A: I'm sorry, but I have to go.  
B: Fine.

A: Oh, look at the time. I´ll have to go.

B: It’s been great talking to you.

A: We have to make plans to get together some time.

B: Yeah. Let’s do something some time.

A: Alright. I’ll call you.

**Note:** After one of the speakers has spoken the first words to end a conversation, it is appropriate for the other speaker (s)to say words like: ok, fine, alright, well, and then, the good-byes.

**Activity 2: How would you close a conversation in the following situations? Create conversations in pairs or in groups.**

a. You're in a hurry to leave. What do you say?

b. You really don't want to leave, but you can see the other person needs to go.

c. You just met someone at a party, but you have to leave the party early.

d. You have to say good-bye to your husband/wife, boyfriend/girlfriend.

**Activity 3: Follow-up (homework):**

1. Observe or listen to a natural conversation and write it down. Focus on the final stage of the conversation, where the closing part happens.

2. Analyze the conversation according to the following criteria:

* Where is the conversation happening? What is its purpose? What is the relationship between the speakers?
* How do the speakers let each other know that they are about to say “good-bye”? What formulas do they use to accomplish this? How do they avoid being rude and abrupt in closing the conversation?
* Which utterances are leave-takings or good-byes? How does the relationship between the speakers, their roles, the context of the conversation, and its purpose influence the choice of words for these utterances?
* Role-play the conversation in front of your classmates and present the results of your discussions.

**Helped by:** <http://www.eslgold.com/speaking/ss_closing_conversation.html>

<http://www.eslgold.com/business/useful_expressions/closing_conversation.html>

<http://www.eslfast.com/robot/topics/smalltalk/smalltalk23.htm>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~dsls/publications/Griswold.pdf>

<http://www.better-english.com/grammar/bye.htm>