

200 ESL Conversation Questions by CEFR Level (A1–C2)

Every question below is sorted into a real CEFR band, from A1 small talk to C2 abstract debate. Jump to a level, pick a handful, and start talking — no printing required, though a printable version is linked below if you'd rather have paper in hand.

A1

1. What is your name?

Personal info

2. Where are you from?

Personal info

3. How old are you?

Personal info

4. What is your job?

Personal info

5. Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Family

6. Who do you live with?

Family

7. What is your mother's name?

Family

8. Do you have a pet?

Family & home

9. What is your favourite food?

Food & drink

10. What do you usually eat for breakfast?

Food & drink

11. Do you like coffee or tea?

Food & drink

12. What time do you wake up?

Daily routine

13. What time do you go to bed?

Daily routine

14. How do you go to work or school?

Daily routine

15. What day is it today?

Daily routine

16. What is your favourite colour?

Likes & dislikes

17. What is your favourite animal?

Likes & dislikes

18. Do you like music?

Likes & dislikes

19. What music do you like?

Likes & dislikes

20. Is it hot or cold today?

Weather

21. Do you like rain?

Weather

22. How many people are in your family?

Family

23. What is your phone number?

Personal info

24. Where do you live?

Personal info

25. What is your favourite subject at school?

Daily routine

26. Can you drive a car?

Abilities

27. Can you swim?

Abilities

28. What is your favourite fruit?

Food & drink

29. Do you drink milk every day?

Food & drink

30. What is in your bag today?

Objects

31. What colour is your shirt?

Objects

32. How many windows are in this room?

Objects

33. Do you have a bicycle?

Objects

34. What is your favourite season?

Weather

35. Is today a school day?

Daily routine

A2

36. What do you usually do on weekends?

Weekend & free time

37. What is your favourite hobby?

Hobbies

38. Do you play any sports?

Hobbies

39. How often do you exercise?

Hobbies

40. What did you do last weekend?

Past experiences

41. Where did you go on your last holiday?

Travel

42. Have you ever been on a plane?

Travel

43. What country would you like to visit?

Travel

44. What did you have for dinner yesterday?

Food & drink

45. Can you cook? What can you make?

Food & drink

46. What was your favourite subject at school?

School & work

47. What did you want to be when you were a child?

School & work

48. How did you learn English?

School & work

49. What do you do at work every day?

School & work

50. How often do you go shopping?

Shopping

51. What was the last thing you bought?

Shopping

52. Do you prefer shopping online or in shops?

Shopping

53. What do you do when you have a headache?

Health

54. How often do you go to the doctor?

Health

55. What did you do yesterday evening?

Past experiences

56. Have you ever tried a strange food?

Past experiences

57. What is your favourite film? Why?

Entertainment

58. Do you prefer watching films at home or at the cinema?

Entertainment

59. What TV shows do you watch?

Entertainment

60. How many hours do you sleep every night?

Daily routine

61. What is your daily routine on a school day?

Daily routine

62. Who is your best friend? What are they like?

Friends

63. How did you meet your best friend?

Friends

64. What do you and your friends usually do together?

Friends

65. What is the weather like in your hometown?

Hometown

66. What is famous in your hometown?

Hometown

67. Would you rather live in a city or a small town?

Hometown

68. What was your favourite toy as a child?

Childhood

69. Did you like school when you were young?

Childhood

70. What languages can you speak?

Skills

B1

71. What is your opinion of social media?

Opinions

72. Do you think it's important to learn a second language? Why?

Opinions

73. What kind of music do you think is the best? Why?

Opinions

74. Do you think homework helps students learn?

Opinions

75. What are your plans for next weekend?

Future plans

76. Where do you see yourself in five years?

Future plans

77. What job would you like to have in the future?

Future plans

78. Is there a skill you'd like to learn one day?

Future plans

79. How has your hometown changed in the last ten years?

Then vs now

80. Was life better before smartphones? Why or why not?

Then vs now

81. How is your life different now compared to five years ago?

Then vs now

82. What is the most interesting place you have ever visited?

Experiences

83. Have you ever done something you regret? What happened?

Experiences

84. What is the best gift you have ever received?

Experiences

85. Have you ever changed your mind about something important?

Experiences

86. How many hours a day do you spend on your phone?

Technology

87. Do you think technology makes people more or less social?

Technology

88. What app could you not live without?

Technology

89. Do you prefer texting or calling people? Why?

Technology

90. What do you do to protect the environment?

Environment

91. Do you recycle at home? Why or why not?

Environment

92. What is one environmental problem in your country?

Environment

93. What is a tradition from your country you like?

Culture

94. How do people celebrate birthdays in your culture?

Culture

95. What is something a foreigner might find strange about your country?

Culture

96. What is the most important quality in a friend?

Relationships

97. Do you find it easy or hard to make new friends?

Relationships

98. What makes someone a good teacher?

Education

99. Should students wear school uniforms? Why or why not?

Education

100. Is it better to study alone or in a group?

Education

101. What is a healthy habit you have?

Health & lifestyle

102. How do you deal with stress?

Health & lifestyle

103. Is it important to have a work-life balance? Why?

Health & lifestyle

104. What is your favourite way to spend a free day?

Free time

105. Do you think it's important to travel? Why or why not?

Travel

B2

106. If you won a large amount of money, what would you do with it?

Hypotheticals

107. If you could change one law in your country, what would it be?

Hypotheticals

108. If you could live in any period of history, when would you choose?

Hypotheticals

109. If you had to give up your phone for a month, how would your life change?

Hypotheticals

110. Should university education be free for everyone? Why or why not?

Debate

111. Is it ever acceptable to lie to protect someone's feelings?

Debate

112. Should children be given smartphones before the age of 12?

Debate

113. Is remote work better than working in an office? Argue both sides.

Debate

114. Do social media platforms have too much influence on public opinion?

Technology & society

115. Should there be an age limit on using social media?

Technology & society

116. How is artificial intelligence likely to change the job market?

Technology & society

117. Do you think privacy still exists in the digital age?

Technology & society

118. Do you trust the news you read online? Why or why not?

Media

119. How has the internet changed the way people get their news?

Media

120. Should celebrities be role models? Why or why not?

Media

121. What makes a job satisfying beyond the salary?

Work & career

122. Is it better to have one long career or several different careers?

Work & career

123. Should companies allow employees to work a 4-day week?

Work & career

124. What responsibilities come with a close friendship?

Relationships

125. Can people from very different backgrounds truly understand each other?

Relationships

126. Is competition healthy in relationships between friends?

Relationships

127. Should wealthy countries be responsible for helping poorer ones?

Ethics

128. Is it fair that some people are born into more advantages than others?

Ethics

129. Should animal testing be banned, even if it slows medical research?

Ethics

130. What is one law you disagree with, and why?

Ethics

131. How important is it to preserve traditional customs in a modern world?

Culture & society

132. Do you think globalisation has been good or bad overall?

Culture & society

133. Should schools teach more practical life skills instead of theory?

Education

134. Is standardized testing a fair way to measure a student's ability?

Education

135. What is the biggest challenge facing your generation?

Society

136. Should voting be mandatory in a democracy?

Society

137. Is it possible to be truly happy without financial security?

Society

138. Do you think advertising manipulates people more than it informs them?

Media

139. What would you change about the education system in your country?

Education

140. Should there be limits on how much a company's CEO can earn?

Ethics

C1

141. To what extent should individual freedom be limited for the greater good?

Society & ethics

142. Is meritocracy a realistic goal, or is it fundamentally flawed?

Society & ethics

143. How much responsibility do individuals bear for problems caused by systems they didn't create?

Society & ethics

144. Can a society be genuinely free if total equality is enforced?

Society & ethics

145. Does exposure to other cultures make people more tolerant, or does it sometimes deepen divisions?

Culture & identity

146. Is national identity becoming less relevant in an increasingly globalised world?

Culture & identity

147. How much of a person's identity is shaped by choice versus circumstance?

Culture & identity

148. Should cultural traditions be allowed to change, or is preserving them more important than adapting them?

Culture & identity

149. Is it ever justifiable to break a law you believe is unjust?

Ethics

150. Does the end ever truly justify the means?

Ethics

151. Are humans naturally cooperative or naturally self-interested?

Ethics

152. How should society balance freedom of speech with protection from harm?

Ethics

153. Can art or literature that expresses harmful ideas still have value?

Ethics

154. Does language shape the way people think, or simply describe thoughts they already have?

Language & communication

155. Is it possible to fully understand a culture without speaking its language fluently?

Language & communication

156. How much meaning is lost in translation between languages, and does it matter?

Language & communication

157. Should endangered languages be actively preserved, even at significant cost?

Language & communication

158. Is technological progress always a form of human progress?

Technology & progress

159. Should there be limits on scientific research even if it could save lives?

Technology & progress

160. Does convenience technology ultimately make people more capable or more dependent?

Technology & progress

161. How should societies weigh economic growth against environmental protection?

Technology & progress

162. Is objectivity in journalism achievable, or is all reporting inherently biased?

Media & society

163. Does constant exposure to global crises through media change how people respond to them?

Media & society

164. Is public opinion a reliable guide for political decision-making?

Media & society

165. Should algorithms be allowed to decide what information people see?

Media & society

166. Is ambition ultimately a positive or a corrosive force in a person's life?

Personal philosophy

167. Can a person change fundamentally, or do people mostly stay who they always were?

Personal philosophy

168. Is it possible to make a fully rational decision, or is emotion always involved?

Personal philosophy

169. Does having more choices make people happier, or does it create anxiety?

Personal philosophy

170. Should future generations' interests outweigh the interests of people living today?

Society & ethics

C2

171. Is the concept of objective truth still meaningful in an age of competing narratives?

Epistemology

172. Can knowledge exist independently of the language used to express it?

Epistemology

173. Is certainty ever fully justified, or is all belief provisional?

Epistemology

174. How do we distinguish genuine understanding from the sophisticated appearance of it?

Epistemology

175. Does moral progress actually exist, or does each era simply redefine morality to suit itself?

Moral philosophy

176. Is it coherent to hold people morally responsible for actions shaped by circumstances beyond their control?

Moral philosophy

177. Can a genuinely selfless act exist, or is self-interest always present in some form?

Moral philosophy

178. Should moral judgments ever be considered universal, or are they inevitably culturally relative?

Moral philosophy

179. Is democracy the best system of governance, or merely the least bad one so far devised?

Political philosophy

180. Does the pursuit of equality inevitably come into conflict with the pursuit of liberty?

Political philosophy

181. Can a truly just society exist while significant economic inequality persists within it?

Political philosophy

182. Is national sovereignty compatible with solving genuinely global problems?

Political philosophy

183. Does the acceleration of technological change outpace society's capacity to govern it wisely?

Technology & civilisation

184. Is there a meaningful distinction between augmenting human ability and replacing it?

Technology & civilisation

185. Should the rights of future, not-yet-existing generations constrain what the present generation may do?

Technology & civilisation

186. Can a civilisation be considered advanced if its progress is unevenly distributed among its members?

Technology & civilisation

187. Is identity something discovered within a person or constructed through their choices and relationships?

Identity & self

188. Does complete self-knowledge exist, or is a degree of self-deception inherent to functioning as a person?

Identity & self

189. To what extent is the self a continuous entity over time, rather than a series of related but distinct selves?

Identity & self

190. Is authenticity a coherent goal, given how much of the self is shaped by external influence?

Identity & self

191. Is ambiguity in language a flaw to be eliminated or a feature that enables nuance and art?

Language & meaning

192. Can meaning be fixed by an author's intention, or does it inevitably shift with each reader's interpretation?

Language & meaning

193. Is untranslatability evidence of genuinely different worldviews, or just a gap that a longer explanation could close?

Language & meaning

194. Does the way an argument is framed change its validity, or only its persuasiveness?

Language & meaning

195. Is disagreement a sign of a healthy society or evidence of its fragmentation?

Society & discourse

196. Can genuine consensus be reached on deeply value-laden questions, or only negotiated compromise?

Society & discourse

197. Does exposure to opposing views tend to change people's minds, or entrench their existing positions?

Society & discourse

198. Is it possible to critique a system fairly while still participating in it?

Society & discourse

199. Does the paradox of choice suggest that more options can reduce, rather than increase, human freedom?

Paradox & ambiguity

200. Can a statement be simultaneously true in one context and false in another without being incoherent?

Paradox & ambiguity