

OXFORD ONLINE ENGLISH. HOBBIES. TRANSCRIPT

Talking about your free time is a great way to start a conversation in English or to find things in common when you're speaking to somebody.

Part One: Free Time and Hobbies Vocabulary

Some people prefer things you can do at home, like watching TV, reading, or cooking. Other people like sports, like playing football, basketball, or tennis. You could also go swimming, jogging, or climbing, or maybe do boxing, judo, or yoga.

Of course, many people prefer more social activities, for example, hanging out with friends, relaxing with family, or going shopping. Or maybe you like to do something more creative, like taking photos, painting, or writing stories or a blog.

Part Two: What Do You Like Doing?

"In my free time, I like playing basketball."
"In my free time, I like relaxing with my family."
"In my free time, I like reading books."

In every sentence, after "like," we use a verb plus -ing, but just using "like" can be repetitive and boring. You could use verbs like "love," "enjoy," or "hate."

For example:

"I love going swimming."
"I enjoy watching TV."
"I hate going shopping."

After all of these verbs, you need to use a verb with -ing. You can also add words like "really," "sometimes," or "absolutely" to make your meaning stronger or weaker.

For example:

"I really like taking photos."
"Sometimes I enjoy going jogging."
"I absolutely hate playing football."

You can add more details to your ideas. First, let's say how often you do your free time activity.

For example:

"I like playing sport. I play football every Tuesday evening."
"I absolutely hate going shopping. I only go shopping once or twice a year."
"I really like taking photos, but I don't get the chance to do it often."

You can use these phrases to help you talk:

"Every..." For example: "every weekend," "every Saturday afternoon," "every day."
"Once or twice a..."

For example: "once a week," "twice a month," "three times a year," and so on.

Add some details about where you do your hobby or free time activity.

For example:

"I like playing sport. I play football every Tuesday evening at the park near my house."
"I enjoy having coffee with my friends. We go to a cafe in the city centre once or twice a week."
"I really like taking wildlife photos in the forest, but I don't get the chance to do it often."

When you speak, you should always try to add some details to your ideas. It will make your English sound more interesting and more natural.

Look at giving background information, especially if you have an interesting or unusual hobby. You can talk about when and why you started doing it.

For example:

"I started playing tennis when I was 10."
"I've been learning to paint for six months now."
"I decided to do yoga because I wanted to be healthy."
"My French friend got me into climbing."

In the last sentence, the phrase "My friend got me into something" means that your friend introduced this activity to you, and now you like it.

For example:

"I started climbing when I was living in Russia."
"I've been climbing for about eight years."
"I also recently decided to do yoga because I wanted to be more flexible."
"When I was younger, my dad got me into photography."

You can add some descriptive words to say why you do or don't enjoy something.

For example:

"I like climbing because it's really exciting."
"I love doing yoga because it's so relaxing."
"I really like writing stories because it's creative, and I like using my imagination."