

SHOWING SURPRISE AND INTEREST

A2-B1 | Conversation practice examples for reacting naturally

Conversation: An unexpected television appearance

Jess	My sister was on television last night.
Owen	Really? What was she doing?
Jess	She was in a cooking competition. She made our grandmother's apple cake.
Owen	No way! I didn't know she liked cooking that much. Did she win?
Jess	She came second. One of the judges asked for the recipe.
Owen	Wow! Your grandmother must be pleased.
Jess	She is. She's already watched the programme three times.
Owen	That's great! Send me the link - I'd love to see it.

Key phrases: Really? / No way! / Wow! / That's great!

Conversation: A first camping trip

Aiden	We went camping by the lake last weekend. It was my first time sleeping in a tent.
Eva	Did you? I thought you hated being outside at night.
Aiden	I was nervous at first, but it was lovely and quiet. Then we heard a noise outside.
Eva	What happened? Was there an animal near the tent?
Aiden	Yes, but only a duck. It had found the bread we'd left on the table.
Eva	That's funny. Did you manage to get any sleep after that?
Aiden	Eventually. In the morning we watched the sun come up over the water.
Eva	That sounds beautiful. Maybe I'll come with you next time.

Key phrases: Did you? / What happened? / That sounds

Create your own conversation

Choose one prompt. Use at least two key phrases and include a natural response and follow-up.

Prompt 1: A friend has appeared on television or met somebody unexpected. React and ask follow-up questions.

Prompt 2: Tell your partner about a first-time experience with an unexpected moment. Show interest in the details.