

Quotes on Conversation

A select collection of wit and wisdom to Inform, Involve and Inspire you.

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Conversation should touch everything, but should concentrate itself on nothing.

— Oscar Wilde

But conversation, choose what theme we may, And chiefly when religion leads the way, Should flow, like waters after summer show'rs, Not as if raised by mere mechanic powers.

— William Cowper

I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation.

— George Bernard Shaw

Men are capable of talking hours on end over only one subject, women do it and don't even require a subject.

— Curt Goetz

Good nature is more agreeable in conversation than wit, and gives a certain air to the countenance which is more amiable than beauty

— Joseph Addison

Ideal conversation must be an exchange of thought, and not, as many of those who worry most about their shortcomings believe, an eloquent exhibition of wit or oratory

— Emily Post

New York is a city of conversations overheard....

— William E. Geist

Most conversations are simply monologues delivered in the presence of witnesses

— Margaret Miller

Conversation is the laboratory and workshop of the student.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Conversation is an exercise of the mind; gossip is merely an exercise of the tongue.
— Author Unknown

With thee conversing I forget the way.
— John Gay

Conversation is the slowest form of human communication.
— Author Unknown

The true spirit of conversation consists in building on another man's observation, not overturning it
— Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton

Polite conversation is rarely either.
— Fran Lebowitz

Questioning is not the mode of conversation among gentlemen.
— Samuel Johnson

The difficulty with this conversation is that it's very different from most of the ones I've had of late. Which, as I explained, have mostly been with trees.
— Douglas Adams

One of the best rules in conversation is, never to say a thing which any of the company can reasonably wish had been left unsaid
— Jonathan Swift

Form'd by thy converse, happily steer From grave to gay, from lively to severe.
— Alexander Pope

A conversation is a dialogue, not a monologue. That's why there are so few good conversations: due to scarcity, two intelligent talkers seldom meet.
— Truman Capote

If you ever have to support a flagging conversation, introduce the topic of eating
— Leigh Hunt

It is all right to hold a conversation but you should let go of it now and then
— Richard Armour

Conversation may be compared to a lyre with seven chords - philosophy, art, poetry, love, scandal, and the weather
— Anna Jameson

It was impossible to get a conversation going; everybody was talking too much.
— Yogi Berra

Writing, when properly managed, (as you may be sure I think mine is) is but a different name for conversation
— Laurence Sterne

Conversation would be vastly improved by the constant use of four simple words: I do not know.
— Andre Maurois

Not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.
— George Sala

Conversation is a game of circles.
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Talk may be cheap but intelligent conversation is very expensive these days. Ask anyone with a kid in college.
— Author Unknown

Conversation enriches the understanding, but solitude is the school of genius
— Edward Gibbon

The lower one speaks the closer a woman listens.
— Marcel Achard

Men view discussion as the art of trying to keep their wives quiet, women see it as the art of preventing their husbands from ever speaking.
— Fritz Eckhardt

It is a characteristic of virility to not feel compelled to prove you have nothing much to say.
— Author Unknown

Tallulah was sitting in a group of people, giving the monologue she always thought was conversation.
— Lillian Hellman

Conversation about the weather is the last refuge of the unimaginative.

— Oscar Wilde

Discourse, the sweeter banquet of the mind.

— Homer

His conversation does not show the minute hand; but he strikes the hour very correctly.

— Samuel Johnson

A single conversation across the table with a wise person is worth a month's study of books

— Chinese Proverb

Men of great conversational powers almost universally practice a sort of lively sophistry and exaggeration which deceives for the moment both themselves and their auditors.

— Thomas Babington Macaulay

Inject a few raisins of conversation into the tasteless dough of existence.

— O. Henry

I never desire to converse with a man who has written more than he has read.

— Samuel Johnson

The great secret of succeeding in conversation is to admire little, to hear much; always to distrust our own reason, and sometimes that of our friends; never to pretend to wit, but to make that of others appear as much as possibly we can; to hearken

— Benjamin Franklin

I never, with important air, In conversation overbear....My tongue within my lips I rein; For who talks much must talk in vain.

— John Gay

The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right place but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.

— Dorothy Nevill

They converse as those who know that God hears. [Lat., Ita fabulantur ut qui sciunt Dominum audire.]

— Quintus Septimius Florens Tertullian

Conversation is an art in which man has all mankind for competitors.

— Ralph Waldo Emerso

They would talk of nothing but high life and high-lived company, with other fashionable topics, such as pictures, taste, Shakespeare, and the musical glasses.

— Oliver Goldsmith

A good memory and a tongue tied in the middle is a combination which gives immortality to conversation.

— Mark Twain

Method is not less requisite in ordinary conversation than in writing, provided a man would talk to make himself understood.

— Joseph Addison

With good and gentle-humored hearts I choose to chat where'er I come
Whate'er the subject be that starts. But if I get among the glum I hold
my tongue to tell the truth And keep my breath to cool my broth.

— John Byrom

Anyone who thinks the art of conversation is dead ought to tell a child to go to bed.

Robert C. Gallagher

A dearth of words a woman need not fear; But 'tis a task indeed to learn
to hear: In that the skill of conversation lies; That shows and makes you
both polite and wise.

— Edward Young

In conversation avoid the extremes of forwardness and reserve.

— John Byrom

And when you stick on conversation's burs, Don't strew your pathway
with those dreadful urs.

— Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

Conversation is the art of speaking without thinking.

Victor de Kowa

With thee conversing I forget all time: All seasons and their change, all
please alike.

— John Milton

Are you really listening, or are you just waiting for your turn to speak?

— John Milton Fogg

Conversation would be vastly improved by the constant use of four
simple words: I do not know

Andre Maurois

The secret of success in conversation is to be able to disagree without being disagreeable
— Author Unknown

There is no such thing as a worthless conversation, provided you know what to listen for. And questions are the breath of life for a conversation.
— James Nathan Miller

Conversation should be pleasant without scurrility, witty without affectation, free without indecency, learned without conceitedness, novel without falsehood.
— William Shakespeare

I attribute the little I know to my not having been ashamed to ask for information, and to my rule of conversing with all descriptions of men on those topics that form their own peculiar professions and pursuits.
— John Locke

Conversation between Adam and Eve must have been difficult at times because they had nobody to talk about
— Agnes Repplier

Conversation is an art in which a man has all mankind for his competitors, for it is that which all are practicing every day while they live
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Drawing on my fine command of language, I said nothing.
— Robert Benchley

A single conversation across the table with a wise man is better than ten years' study of books.
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
