

Conversation Openers - Gambits

BILAG 10

Gambits are words and fixed phrases that you use in spoken English, when you start a sentence or respond in a conversation. When you learn to use different gambits, you will get a nice variation in your language, when you speak English.

Read the examples below and use at least 9 different gambits in your roleplay.

Asking for information

I'd like to know ...
I'm interested in ...
Could you tell me ...?
Do you know ...?
Could you find out ...?
Could I ask ...?
Do you happen to know ...?

Interrupting something

Sorry, but ...
Excuse me for interrupting, but ...
Can I add here that ...?
Can I ask a question?
Anyway ...
In any case ...
To get back to what I was saying ...
Where was I?

Telling a story

First ...
First of all ...
To begin with ...
Then ...
After that ...
So ...
So then ...
At the end ...
Finally ...

Give an opinion

What I mean is ...
Let me put it this way ...
What I'm trying to say ...
I personally believe/think/feel ...
In my opinion ...
I think ...
I'm pretty sure that ...
I'm convinced that ...

A surprising fact

Do you realize that ...
Believe it or not ...
You may not believe it, but ...
It may sound strange, but ...
The surprising thing is ...
Oddly enough ...
Funnily enough ...

Changing the subject

Talking of ...
That reminds me ...
By the way ...
Before I forget ...
What's more ...
And another thing ...