

Discussion Topic: Body Language and Gestures

If you feel anxious or nervous about speaking in English, here is a list of questions to consider for this week's topic.

General Questions:

1. What are some common gestures you use a lot in conversation?
2. Why are gestures and body language important in conversation?
3. Do gestures help you to understand others and express yourself, or are they sometimes confusing and distracting?
4. Are you good at picking up on other people's body language? Why or why not?
5. What are some things you immediately notice about people's body language?
6. How much should we depend on body language for communication compared with spoken language?
7. Is body language helpful for learning English?
8. Have you ever made a social mistake using wrong gestures in foreign countries?

Specific Questions:

9. Does your country have a gesture for money? Can you give us an example? How is it different from other countries?
10. Does your country have a gesture for asking for the bill at a restaurant? Is it different from other countries?
11. What is your gesture for coming and going?
12. What are your signs for yes and no?
13. How do you feel about eye contact during a conversation?
14. How do you feel about someone blowing their nose in public?
15. What are some distinctive body language signs that signify ...
A) Confidence? B) Sadness? C) Happiness? D) Anger? E) Nervousness?
16. What are some examples of body language that children (girls and boys) use? What about for adults (men and women)?