

Follow-up questions and active listening

1. Transcript gap fill. Watch the video and follow the transcript attached to this exercise. Fill in the gaps with the missing word(s).

The topic for today's video is how do you answer that common question, "So, what do you do?" Now to a lot of people, this feels like an invitation to _____ and that's something a lot of us scientists and engineers really aren't very comfortable with. But I want to help you see it as an _____ to have a much more productive conversation. In fact, with the right answer, you can turn that question into a _____. Now this is actually important for everyone you meet, not just people who you know are in your _____. You never know who might know somebody or something that could help you in your career path, so it's important to take this question _____ with everyone you meet, whether in a social setting or whether in a career setting.

2. Extending dialogues. Now we are going to read a few extracts taken from the video. Look at them and think of a follow-up question you would be interested in asking or how you would show active listening to the other interlocutor.

- a) Well I'm a laser systems expert. I take single frequency tunable lasers that we buy from Coherent and I push the well beyond the performance limits.

- b) We're doing this research because we hope that someday we can actually use the stem cells and grow an artificial heart out of tissue rather than replacing somebody's heart with a mechanical one.

- c) I work with scientists and engineers to help them design and build rewarding careers in industry.