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Mastering the *Art of Uncomfortability*: Conversation Tips

- Flow of a conversation (see inside for examples)
1. Start the conversation
 2. Maintain the conversation
 3. Exit the conversation, gracefully

Conversation-starters

Discuss the event: What do you think of the event so far? Have you attended before? Which session was your favorite / what did you find most helpful? Have you been to [event location] before?

Ask basic info: What organization/department are you with?

Express appreciation: I loved the point you made about [X].

Continue the conversation

Ask further questions about their career: How long have you been at [organization/department]? What kinds of things are you working on right now?

Connect on a common point: I see you have a sticker from

Yosemite. I was just camping there!

Other small talk: Are you watching or reading anything interesting? Or: share something you've been enjoying: "I've been really into [book] recently, have you ever read it?"

Ending the conversation

Express Appreciation: Well, it was great to meet you. Thanks for your advice, I appreciate it!

Want to keep in touch: Thanks for the advice/insight. This was such a helpful conversation. Could we keep in touch?

Got an informational interview: Thank you. I look forward to speaking with you in the future.