

1. [tɔ:k] *n*

1. разговор, беседа

- straight talk - откровенный разговор, разговор начистоту
 idle [intimate, disjointed] talk - пустой [интимный, бессвязный] разговор
 double talk - двусмысленный разговор
 small talk - разговор о пустяках, светский /пустой/ разговор
 she has no small talk - она не умеет поддерживать беседу
 to meet for a good talk - встретиться и всласть поговорить
 to engage smb. in talk, to make a talk - начинать разговор, пытаться завязать беседу
 to fall into talk - разговориться
 to have a talk with smb. - поговорить с кем-л.
 to start the talk off in a different direction - перевести разговор на другую тему
 the talk turned to economics - разговор перешёл на экономику

2. (on, about) лекция, доклад, беседа

- to give a talk on disarmament - прочитать лекцию о разоружении
 the coach gave the team a talk about the need for more team spirit - тренер провёл с командой беседу об усилении духа коллективизма

3. пустой разговор, болтовня

- to end in talk - кончиться одними словами, не пойти дальше разговоров
 it's just talk, it's mere talk - это одни слова
 he's all talk - он вечно болтает
 we want actions, not talk - нам нужны не слова, а дела

4. разговоры, слухи; рассказы; толки, молва

- that will make talk - теперь пойдут разговоры /толки, слухи/, теперь разговоров не оберёшься
 there is talk of a new invention [of his returning] - ходят слухи о новом изобретении [о его возвращении]

5. предмет толков, разговоров

- it's the talk of the town - об этом толкует /говорит/ весь город, это у всех на устах
 to risk talk - быть выше сплетен /молвы/, не бояться сплетен

6. *pl* переговоры

- informal talks - неофициальные переговоры
 summit /top-level/ talks - переговоры на высшем уровне
 peace talks - переговоры о мире

7. *разг.* язык, диалект, жаргон

- baby talk - детский язык
 thieves' talk - воровской /блатной/ жаргон
 ◇ all talk and no cider - *амер.* ≅ шуму много, а толку мало
 that's the talk! - вот это дело!, вот это я понимаю!

2. [tɔ:k] *v*

1. 1) разговаривать, беседовать; говорить; общаться

- to talk about smb., smth. - говорить о ком-л., чём-л.
 to get oneself talked about - заставить говорить о себе
 I know what I am talking about - я знаю, о чём говорю
 to talk of smth. - а) говорить о чём-л.; б) упоминать о чём-л.; говорить о своём намерении; he talked of /about/ going abroad - он сказал, что собирается за границу; он упомянул о своём намерении поехать за границу
 to talk of one thing and another, to talk of this and that - поговорить /потолковать/ о том о сём
 to talk with smb. - разговаривать с кем-л.
 to talk to smb. - а) разговаривать с кем-л.; she has found smb. to talk to - она нашла себе собеседницу; to talk to oneself - говорить с самим собой; заговариваться; б) *разг.* выговаривать кому-л.; упрекать /бранить/ кого-л.
 to talk at smb. - отпускать замечания на чей-л. счёт /по чьему-л. адресу/
 to talk by signs - говорить /общаться/ с помощью знаков
 to talk in riddles - говорить загадками
 to talk on a subject - говорить на какую-л. тему
 to talk to the point - говорить по существу
 he didn't care to talk - ему не хотелось разговаривать
 that's no way to talk! - так не разговаривают!
 he likes to hear himself talk - он любит слушать (самого) себя

2) говорить (*что-л.*)

- to talk sense /business/ - говорить дело
 to talk nonsense - говорить чепуху, нести /пороты/ чушь
 to talk politics [literature] - говорить о политике [о литературе]
 to talk scandal - распускать слухи, сплетничать
 to talk treason - вести преступные разговоры; держать мятежные речи

3) общаться при помощи звуковых сигналов, обладать способностью речи (*о живых существах, отличных от человека*); переговариваться

- dolphins can talk - дельфины умеют говорить, у дельфинов есть язык
 the birds were talking loudly - ≅ слышались громкие голоса птиц
 ships were talking to each other by wireless - корабли переговаривались друг с другом по радио

2. 1) говорить

to talk fluently - говорить бегло
to learn to talk - учиться говорить
to talk in one's sleep - говорить во сне
stop talking! - перестаньте разговаривать!
I'll make you talk - ты у меня заговоришь, я заставлю тебя заговорить

2) говорить на каком-л. языке

to talk French [English] - говорить по-французски [по-английски]
to talk dialect - говорить на диалекте

3. 1) (on, about) проводить беседу

to talk on discipline - проводить беседу о дисциплине
to talk on the radio on /about/ smth. - выступать по радио (с беседой) о чём-л.

2) (around, round) избегать существа дела; обсуждать, не касаясь, не доходя до существа дела; ≅ ходить вокруг да около, толочь воду в ступе

they talked around the proposal for several hours - они несколько часов обсуждали это предложение, но так ни до чего и не договорились

4. **разг.** болтать; говорить пустое

to talk by the hour - болтать без умолку, тараторить, трещать
to talk small - вести пустой /светский/ разговор, вести салонную беседу
to talk big /large, tall/ - хвастать, бахвалиться, важничать; ≅ врать с три короба
you talk big - послушать тебя - так ты всё можешь

5. **распускать или распространять слухи, сплетничать; судачить, злословить**

to talk behind smb.'s back - говорить за спиной у кого-л., судачить /злословить/ на чей-л. счёт
the case gave people something to talk about - это дело дало обильную пищу для толков
people are beginning to talk - уже пошли разговоры /толки/
the neighbours are sure to talk - соседи уж почешут языки

6. **доводить разговорами (до чего-л.)**

to talk oneself hoarse - договориться до хрипоты; охрипнуть /сорвать голос/ от разговоров
I've talked myself black in the face telling you! - ≅ я тут надсаживаюсь, а ты и ухом не ведёшь!; я уже посинел /охрип/, толкая тебе об этом!
he talked himself into trouble - он чересчур много говорил и влип в неприятную историю

7. **убеждать, уговаривать**

to talk smb. into agreement - вырвать согласие у кого-л.
to talk smb. into [out of] taking the trip - уговорить кого-л. предпринять поездку [отговорить кого-л. от поездки]

8. **разг.** сообщать нужные сведения; доносить; ≅ «раскалываться»

the prisoner talked to the police - арестованный раскололся и всё рассказал полиции
to make a prisoner talk - заставить арестованного заговорить, «расколоть» арестованного
his accomplices are afraid he'll talk - его сообщники боятся, как бы он не заговорил /что он их выдаст/
◇ talking of (pictures) - кстати, о (картинах)
to talk Greek /Hebrew, Double-Dutch, gibberish/ - говорить непонятно /заумно/
to talk (cold) turkey - **амер.** а) говорить дело, разговаривать по-деловому; б) говорить начистоту, выкладывать всю правду
to talk against time - а) говорить для того, чтобы выиграть время; б) стараться соблюсти регламент
to talk through one's hat /through (the back of) one's neck/ - нести чушь, говорить вздор, пороть чепуху
to talk one's head /one's arm, a donkey's hind leg/ off, to talk to death - наговориться всласть /вволю/
to talk smb.'s head off, to talk smb. to death - замучить кого-л. разговорами, заговорить кого-л. до потери сознания /до смерти/
to talk horse - хвастать, бахвалиться
how you talk! - рассказывай!, ври больше!
you can't talk - ты бы уж лучше помалкивал
now you're talking! - вот это дело!, вот это я понимаю!, вот это другой разговор!
talk of the devil (and he will come /and he is sure to appear/) - ≅ лёгок на помине
look who's talking - ≅ чья бы корова мычала

talk

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

talk [talk talks talked talking] verb, noun BrE [tɒk] ^{AM} NAmE [tɔk] ^{AM}
verb

SPEAK TO SB

1. **intransitive, transitive** to say things; to speak in order to give information or to express feelings, ideas, etc

- Stop talking and listen!
- We talked on the phone for over an hour.
- ~ **(to/with sb) (about sb/sth)** Who were you talking to just now?
- We looked around the school and talked with the principal.
- Ann and Joe **aren't talking** to each other right now (= they refuse to speak to each other because they have argued) .
- When they get together, all they talk about is football.
- **What are you talking about?** (= used when you are surprised, annoyed and/or worried by sth that sb has just said)
- **I don't know what you're talking about** (= used to say that you did not do sth that sb has accused you of) .
- ~ **of sth** Mary is talking of looking for another job.
- ~ **yourself + adj.** We **talked ourselves hoarse** , catching up on all the news.

DISCUSS

2. intransitive, transitive to discuss sth, usually sth serious or important

- This situation can't go on. We need to talk.
- The two sides in the dispute say they are ready to talk.
- ~ **(to/with sb) (about sth)** Talk to your doctor if you're still worried.
- ~ **sth** to talk business

SAY WORDS

3. intransitive, transitive to say words in a language

- The baby is just starting to talk.
- ~ **in sth** We couldn't understand them because they were talking in Chinese.
- ~ **sth** Are they talking Swedish or Danish?

SENSE/NONSENSE

4. transitive ~ sth to say things that are/are not sensible

- She talks a lot of sense.
- (BrE) You're talking rubbish!
- See if you can **talk some sense into him** (= persuade him to be sensible).

FOR EMPHASIS

5. transitive be talking sth (informal) used to emphasize an amount of money, how serious sth is, etc.

- We're talking £500 for three hours' work.
- Do you know what this will cost? We're talking megabucks here.

ABOUT PRIVATE LIFE

6. intransitive to talk about a person's private life

Syn: †gossip

- Don't phone me at work— **people will talk**.

GIVE INFORMATION

7. intransitive to give information to sb, especially unwillingly

- The police questioned him but he refused to talk.

more at speak/talk of the devil **at** †devil, know what you're talking about **at** †know_{v.}, speak/talk the same language **at** †language, money talks **at** †money, knock/talk some sense into sb **at** †sense_{n.}, speak/talk out of turn **at** †turn_{n.}

Verb forms:

verb forms	
present simple	
I / you / we / they	talk
	BrE /b:k/
	NAme /b:ɪk/
he / she / it	talks
	BrE /b:ks/
	NAme /b:ɪks/
past simple, past participle	talked
	BrE /b:kt/
	NAme /b:ɪkt/
-ing form	talking
	BrE /b:kɪŋ/
	NAme /b:ɪkɪŋ/

Word Origin:

Middle English: frequentative verb from the Germanic base of †tale or †tell.

Synonyms:

talk

discuss • speak • communicate • debate • consult

These words all mean to share news, information, ideas or feelings with another person or other people, especially by talking with them.

talk • to speak in order to give information, express feelings or share ideas: ▪ We talked on the phone for over an hour.

discuss • (rather formal) to talk and share ideas on a subject or problem with other people, especially in order to decide sth: ▪

Have you discussed the problem with anyone?

You cannot say 'discuss about sth': I'm not prepared to discuss about this on the phone.

speak • to talk to sb about sth; to have a conversation with sb: ▪ I've spoken to the manager about it. ◇ 'Can I speak to Susan?'

'Speaking.' ▪ (= at the beginning of a telephone conversation)

talk or speak?

Speak can suggest a more formal level of communication than **talk**. You **speak** to sb about sth to try to achieve a particular goal or to tell them to do sth. You **talk** to sb in order to be friendly or to ask their advice: ▪ Have you talked to your parents about the problems you're having? ◇ I've spoken to Ed about it and he's promised not to let it happen again.

communicate • (rather formal) to exchange information or ideas with sb: ▪ We only communicate by email. ◇ Dolphins use sound to communicate with each other.

Communicate is often used when the speaker wants to draw attention to the means of communication used.

debate • to discuss sth, especially formally, before making a decision or finding a solution: ▪ Politicians will be debating the bill

later this week.

consult • (rather formal) to discuss sth with sb in order to get their permission for sth, or to help you make a decision: ▪ You shouldn't have done it without consulting me.

to talk/discuss sth/speak/communicate/debate/consult **with** sb

to talk/speak **to** sb

to talk/speak to sb/consult sb **about** sth

to talk/speak **of** sth

Example Bank:

- All they talk about is clothes.
- Bruce Springsteen has agreed to talk exclusively to our reporter about his life.
- He had talked vaguely of going to work abroad.
- He was so easy to talk to.
- I can't talk about it just now.
- I loved to hear him talk about the old days.
- I need to talk to you.
- I think you'd better talk directly to my manager.
- I'll talk to John this afternoon.
- I've talked with him on the telephone.
- Just shut up and let me talk for a minute.
- Let's talk sensibly about this.
- She talked quite freely about her work.
- Talking of Joe, I met his new boyfriend last week.
- The police questioned him for four hours, trying to make him talk.
- The senior managers talk a good game about customer relations, but really they don't care about the customer.
- We often talked of the war.
- You can talk the talk, but can you walk the walk?
- a group of students talking earnestly
- talking about their new clothes
- Alex can't talk yet— he's only just one year old.
- Ann and Joe aren't talking to each other right now.
- He talked excitedly of his plans.
- Talk to your doctor if you're still worried.
- They spent the whole evening talking business.
- This situation can't go on. We need to talk.
- When they get together, all they talk about is football
- You're talking nonsense!

Idioms: ↑look who's talking ▪ ↑now you're talking ▪ ↑talk a good game ▪ ↑talk about ... ▪ ↑talk dirty ▪ ↑talk of something ▪ ↑talk shop ▪ ↑talk the hind leg off a donkey ▪ ↑talk the talk ▪ ↑talk through your hat ▪ ↑talk tough ▪ ↑talk turkey ▪ ↑talk your way out of doing something ▪ ↑talking of somebody ▪ ↑you can talk ▪ ↑you're a fine one to talk

Derived ↑talk at somebody ▪ ↑talk back ▪ ↑talk down to somebody ▪ ↑talk round something ▪ ↑talk somebody down ▪ ↑talk somebody out of something ▪ ↑talk somebody round ▪ ↑talk somebody through something ▪ ↑talk somebody up ▪ ↑talk something down ▪ ↑talk something out ▪ ↑talk something over ▪ ↑talk something through

noun

CONVERSATION

1. countable ~ (with sb) (about sth) a conversation or discussion

- I **had a long talk** with my boss about my career prospects.
- We need to have a serious talk about money matters.
- I had to have a heart-to-heart talk with her.
- She looked worried so we had a talk.

FORMAL DISCUSSIONS

2. talks plural formal discussions between governments or organizations

- **arms/pay/peace, etc. talks**
- to **hold talks**
- ~ **(between A and B) (on/over sth) Talks** between management and workers **broke down** over the issue of holiday pay.
- High-level talks on arms limitation will reopen next month.
- A further **round of talks** will be needed if the dispute is to be resolved
- Union representatives walked out of emergency talks aimed at reaching a pay settlement.

SPEECH

3. countable ~ (on sth) a speech or lecture on a particular subject

- She **gave a talk** on her visit to China.

WORDS WITHOUT ACTIONS

4. uncountable (informal) words that are spoken, but without the necessary facts or actions to support them

- It's just talk. He'd never carry out his threats.

- Don't pay any attention to her—she's **all talk** .

STORIES/RUMOURS

5. **uncountable** ~ (of sth/of doing sth) | ~ (that...) stories that suggest a particular thing might happen in the future

- There was talk in Washington of sending in troops.
- She dismissed the stories of her resignation as newspaper talk.
- There's talk that he's a difficult actor to work with.

TOPIC/WAY OF SPEAKING

6. **uncountable** (often in compounds) a topic of conversation or a way of speaking

- business talk
- She said it was just **girl talk** that a man wouldn't understand.
- The book teaches you how to understand Spanish **street talk** (= slang) .
- It was tough talk, coming from a man who had begun the year in a hospital bed.

see also ↑small talk, ↑sweet talk, ↑trash talk

more at fighting talk **at** ↑fight _{v.}

Word Origin:

Middle English: frequentative verb from the Germanic base of ↑tale or ↑tell.

Synonyms:

discussion

conversation • dialogue • talk • debate • consultation • chat • gossip

These are all words for an occasion when people talk about sth.

discussion • a detailed conversation about sth that is considered to be important: ▪ Discussions are still taking place between the two leaders.

conversation • a talk, usually a private or informal one, involving two people or a small group; the activity of talking in this way: ▪ a telephone conversation

dialogue • conversations in a book, play or film: ▪ The novel has long descriptions and not much dialogue. A **dialogue** is also a formal discussion between two groups, especially when they are trying to solve a problem or end a dispute: ▪ The President told waiting reporters there had been a constructive dialogue.

talk • a conversation or discussion, often one about a problem or sth important for the people involved ▪ I had a long talk with my boss about my career prospects.

debate • a formal discussion of an issue at a public meeting or in a parliament. In a debate two or more speakers express opposing views and then there is often a vote on the issue: ▪ a debate on prison reform

consultation • a formal discussion between groups of people before a decision is made about sth: ▪ There have been extensive consultations between the two countries.

chat • a friendly informal conversation; informal talking. The countable use of **chat** is especially British English: ▪ I just called in for a chat about the kids.

gossip • a conversation about other people and their private lives: ▪ We had a good gossip about the boss.

a discussion/conversation/dialogue/talk/debate/consultation/chat/gossip **about** sth

a discussion/conversation/dialogue/debate/consultation **on** sth

in (close) discussion/conversation/dialogue/debate/consultation **with** sb

to **have** a discussion/conversation/dialogue/talk/debate/consultation/chat/gossip **with** sb

to **hold** a discussion/conversation/debate/consultation

Synonyms:

speech

lecture • address • talk • sermon

These are all words for a talk given to an audience.

speech • a formal talk given to an audience: ▪ Several people made speeches at the wedding.

lecture • a talk given to a group of people to tell them about a particular subject, often as part of a university or college course: ▪ a lecture on the Roman army ◇ ▪ a course/series of lectures

address • a formal speech given to an audience: ▪ a televised presidential address

speech or address?

A **speech** can be given on a public or private occasion; an **address** is always public: He gave an address at the wedding.

talk • a fairly informal session in which sb tells a group of people about a subject: ▪ She gave an interesting talk on her visit to China.

sermon • a talk on a moral or religious subject, usually given by a religious leader during a service: ▪ to preach a sermon

a **long/short** speech/lecture/address/talk/sermon

a **keynote** speech/lecture/address

to **write/prepare/give/deliver/hear** a(n) speech/lecture/address/talk/sermon

to **attend/go to** a lecture/talk

Example Bank:

- A further round of talks is expected in March.
- All this talk of the boss resigning is nonsense!
- Did you go to the talk on Peru?
- Don't you get enough shop talk at work?

- For all the talk of bringing their children up the same, the boys ended up never doing any of the cooking.
- For all their talk of equality, the boys ended up not doing any cooking.
- He is currently in talks with two football clubs.
- He was never very good at making small talk with her parents.
- He's all talk. He's too scared to do anything.
- I enjoyed our talk about the old days.
- I need to have a heart-to-heart talk with her.
- I never used baby talk to my little girl.
- I will have to have a little talk with that young lady.
- Let me end my talk with a prediction.
- She gave a very entertaining talk entitled 'My life and hard times'.
- She gave an illustrated talk on Roman architecture.
- She likes straight talk and hates hypocrites.
- Talk turned to money and tempers began to fray.
- Talks are being held over the political future of the province.
- Talks produced agreement on an end to the occupation.
- Talks were scheduled for Rome the following month.
- The US authorities have increased the war talk.
- The agreement was concluded during talks in Beijing.
- The chairman's boasts about future profits was just cheap talk.
- The delegation arrived for talks with their government.
- The peace talks will take place in Cairo.
- The president's true agenda was hidden in political double talk.
- The talks centred on bilateral trade.
- The talks foundered on the issue of compensation.
- The talks remain deadlocked over spending plans.
- The two governments held secret talks on the nuclear threat.
- The union has broken off talks with the management.
- There has been much public talk about bilingual education.
- There is open talk of a leadership challenge.
- There is ridiculous talk of her breaking the world record soon.
- There was excited talk of emigrating to America.
- We can have some girl talk until Joe gets here.
- What all the fine talk came down to was hard cash.
- You often hear talk of the north-south divide.
- the crusade against dirty talk on TV
- the failure of talks between the two communities
- the latest round of talks aimed at ending the civil war
- the pillow talk of lovers
- Every week the sales reps go to their manager's office for a team talk.
- I found the sales talk very persuasive.
- I had a long talk with my boss about my career prospects.
- She gave an interesting talk on her visit to China.

talk

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

I. **talk**¹ **S1 W1** /tɔːk \$ tɒk BrE ¹ AmE ¹ verb

[Word Family: noun: ↑talk, talks, ↑talker; verb: ↑talk; adjective: ↑talkative]

[Date: 1200-1300; Origin: Probably from Old English talian 'to count, consider, tell']

1. CONVERSATION [intransitive] to say things to someone as part of a conversation:

" I could hear Sarah and Andy talking in the next room.

talk about

" English people love to talk about the weather.

" All through the afternoon, they sat and talked about their trip.

talk to

" She spent a long time talking to him.

" She's very easy to talk to.

talk with

" I got the truth from talking with Elena.

talk together

" They were talking together in the hall.

" Sue and Bob still aren't talking (=are refusing to talk to each other).

talk in a low voice/a whisper etc

" They were talking in low voices, and I couldn't catch what they were saying.

talk of (=used especially in formal or literary contexts)

" We talked of old times.

2. SERIOUS SUBJECT [intransitive] to discuss something serious or important with someone:

" Joe, we need to talk.

" Is there somewhere we can talk in private?

talk to

" You should talk to a lawyer.

talk about

" We've been talking about getting married.

talk with

" Parents should talk with their children about drug abuse.

talk sport/politics/business etc

" 'Let's not talk politics now,' said Hugh impatiently.

REGISTER

In written English, people usually say that they are going to **discuss**, **deal with**, or **address** a subject rather than **talk about** it:

▪ In this essay I will discuss the problem of over-population.

3. SAY WORDS [intransitive] to produce words and express thoughts, opinions, ideas etc:

" She was talking so fast I could hardly understand her.

" How do babies learn to talk?

" Some residents were frightened to talk publicly.

talk (in) French/German etc

" They started talking in Spanish.

" Don't let Dad hear you talking like that (=expressing things in a particular way).

4. A SPEECH [intransitive] to give a speech

talk on/about

" Professor Davis will talk about 'Trends in Network Computing'.

5. SECRET INFORMATION [intransitive] if someone who has secret information talks, they tell someone else about it:

" Even under torture, Maskell refused to talk.

" He tried to stop his ex-wife from talking on live TV.

" We should stop meeting like this. People will talk.

6. talk sense/rubbish/nonsense etc especially British English spoken used to say that you think someone is saying something sensible, something stupid etc:

" You do talk rubbish sometimes, Jules.

7. talk (some) sense into somebody to persuade someone to behave sensibly:

" She hoped Father McCormack would be able to talk some sense into her son.

8. talk to yourself to say your thoughts out loud:

" 'What did you say?' 'Sorry, I was just talking to myself.'

9. know what you are talking about spoken to know a lot about a particular subject:

" I worked in hotels for years, so I know what I'm talking about.

10. talk the hind leg(s) off a donkey informal to talk a lot, especially about unimportant things

11. talk about lazy/cheap/hungry etc spoken used to emphasize that someone or something is very lazy, cheap, hungry etc:

" Talk about lucky. That's the second time he's won this week!

12. talking of/about something spoken used to say more about a subject that someone has just mentioned:

" Talking of Venice, have you seen the masks I bought there last year?

13. what are you talking about? spoken used when you think what someone has said is stupid or wrong:

" What are you talking about? We got there in plenty of time.

14. I'm talking to you! spoken used when you are angry that the person you are talking to is not paying attention:

" Rob! I'm talking to you!

15. be like talking to a brick wall spoken used to say that it is annoying to speak to someone because they do not pay attention to you

16. talk sb's ear off American English spoken to talk too much to someone

17. talk trash American English informal to say rude or offensivethings to or about someone, especially to opponents in a sports competition:

" Both teams were talking trash on the court.

18. talk the talk American English informal to say the things that people expect or think are necessary in a particular situation:

" She didn't talk the talk of feminism, but her career was the most important thing in her life. ⇒ **walk the walk** at ↑walk¹(12)

19. I'm/we're/you're talking (about) something spoken used in conversation to emphasize a fact or remind someone of it:

" I'm not talking about ancient history, I'm talking about last season's performance.

20. now you're talking spoken used to say that you think someone's suggestion is a good idea:

" 'Fancy an ice cream?' 'Now you're talking.'

21. look who's talking, you're a fine one to talk, you can talk spoken used to tell someone they should not criticize someone else's behaviour because their own behaviour is just as bad:

" 'Peggy shouldn't smoke so much.' 'Look who's talking!'

22. we're/you're talking £500/three days etc spoken used to tell someone how much something will cost, how long something will take to do etc:

" To do a proper job, you're talking £750 minimum.

23. talk your way out of something informal to escape from a bad or embarrassing situation by giving explanations, excuses etc:

" She's good at talking her way out of trouble.

24. talk nineteen to the dozen British English informal, talk a blue streak American English informal to talk very quickly without stopping

25. talk in riddles to deliberately talk in a strange and confusing way:

" Stop talking in riddles and explain what's going on.

26. talk tough (on something) informal to give people your opinions very strongly:

" The President is talking tough on crime.

27. **talk shop** if people talk shop, they talk about their work when there are people present who are not interested or involved in it – used to show disapproval:

“ Are you two going to talk shop all night?”

28. **talk dirty (to somebody)** *informal* to talk in a sexual way to someone in order to make them feel sexually excited

29. **be talking through your hat** *British English informal* if someone is talking through their hat, they say stupid things about something that they do not understand

30. **talk smack** *American English informal* to criticize someone or something in an unpleasant way

31. **talk to the hand** *spoken informal* used to tell someone rudely that you do not want to listen to anything he or she is going to say to you. When people use this expression, they also usually turn their face away from the other person and hold the **↑palm** of their hand out towards them.

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THESAURUS

- **talk** to use words to communicate with someone about something: I need to talk to you about your work. | She always enjoyed talking to Jim. | Can we talk?
- **speak** to talk. **Speak** is a little more formal than **talk**. You often use it when saying that someone **speaks** in a particular way, or that you will **speak** to someone in order to try to get something done. You only use **speak** when saying that someone **speaks** a language: He spoke with confidence and authority. | She was speaking quietly so she didn't disturb anyone. | I'd like to speak to the manager. | Do you speak German?
- **go on/drone on/ramble** to talk too much or for too long about something, in a way that makes people bored: He went on about how great the team was. | I'd better stop rambling and let you get on with your work.
- **waffle** /'wɒfəl \$ 'wɑː- *British English disapproving informal* to talk using a lot of words but without saying anything important: I wish he would stop waffling and get to the point!
- **prattle on** *disapproving informal* to talk continuously about silly and unimportant things: She prattled on about her boyfriend for the entire journey. | What's he prattling on about now?

■ to talk about everyday things

- **have a conversation** to talk to someone for a long time about everyday things: She was having a conversation with one of her friends. | When I arrived, Joe and Jane were deep in conversation (=very involved in a conversation). | I can order food in a restaurant in French, but not have a conversation.
- **chat/have a chat** *informal* to have a friendly informal conversation about things that are not very important: The girls were chatting outside the house. | It's been nice having a chat with you.
- **gossip** to talk about other people's private lives when they are not there, especially about things that you have heard, which are not completely true: What are you two gossiping about?
- **visit with somebody** *American English informal* to have a conversation with someone: I visited with him last week.
- **converse** *formal* to have a conversation with someone: We met once and conversed briefly.

■ to talk seriously

- **discuss** to talk seriously about problems, ideas, or plans: They met to discuss how the building should be designed. | She refuses to discuss the matter.
- **talk something over** to discuss something with someone because it will affect them, especially someone close to you: Before you accept the job, talk it over with your family. | You two need to sit down and talk things over.
- **debate** to discuss a subject formally when you are trying to make a decision or solve a problem: The issue will be debated on Tuesday. | The UN Security Council debated whether to impose sanctions.

talk around/round *phrasal verb British English*

1. **talk somebody around/round** to persuade someone to change their opinion about something:
“ Leave Betty to me. I'll soon talk her round.”
2. **talk around/round something** to discuss a problem without really dealing with the important parts of it:
“ They had spent half the night talking round the subject.”

talk back *phrasal verb*

to answer someone in authority such as a teacher or parent in a rude or impolite way

talk somebody/something ↔ down *phrasal verb*

1. *British English* to make something seem less successful, interesting, good etc than it really is:
“ the pessimists who are talking down Britain”
2. to help a **↑pilot** land an aircraft by giving them instructions from the ground by radio

talk down to somebody *phrasal verb*

to talk to someone as if they are stupid, although they are not **SYN patronize** :

“ The students felt that they were talked down to as though they were children.”

talk somebody into something *phrasal verb*

to persuade someone to do something

talk somebody into doing something

“ My husband talked me into going skiing.”

talk something ↔ out *phrasal verb informal*

1. to discuss a problem thoroughly in order to solve it:
“ We need to spend a little time talking this out.”

talk something ↔ out with

“ It might help if you talked it out with Dad.”

2. *British English* if politicians talk out a proposal, they talk about it for a long time deliberately so that there will not be enough time to vote on it **SYN filibuster**:

“ The Land Protection Bill was talked out by MPs from rural areas.”

talk somebody out of something *phrasal verb*

to persuade someone not to do something

talk somebody out of doing something

Can't you talk them out of selling the house?

talk something ↔over *phrasal verb*

to discuss a problem with someone before deciding what to do

talk something ↔overwith

Talk over any worries with your GP.

talk through something *phrasal verb*

1. **talk something ↔through** to discuss something thoroughly so that you are sure you understand it:

Allow time to talk through any areas of difficulty.

2. **talk somebody through something** to help someone understand a process, method etc by explaining it to them carefully before they use it:

Trevor talked me through loading the software.

talk something ↔up *phrasal verb*

to make something appear more important, interesting, successful etc than it really is:

Jones talked up the idea at the meeting.

II. **talk**² **S1 W1** *BrE* *AmE* *noun*

[Word Family: *noun*: ↑talk, talks, ↑talker; *verb*: ↑talk; *adjective*: ↑talkative]

1. **CONVERSATION** [countable] a conversation:

After a long talk, we decided on divorce.

John, I'd like to have a talk with you.

talk about

We must have a talk about money.

2. **DISCUSSION** **talks** [plural] formal discussions between governments, organizations etc

peace/trade etc talks

The peace talks look promising.

The president held talks with Chinese officials.

talks with

Talks with the rebels have failed.

3. **SPEECH** [countable] a speech:

an entertaining talk

talk on/about

a talk on local history

give/do/deliver a talk

Dr. Howard will give a talk on herbal medicine.

4. **NEWS** [uncountable] information or news that people talk about and hear about a lot, but that is not official

talk of

Tickets sold so quickly there's talk of a second concert.

talk of doing something

the administration's talk of reducing weapons

talk that

There's talk that she's difficult to work with.

just/only talk

It's just talk. He'll never do it.

5. **TYPE OF CONVERSATION** [uncountable] type of conversation:

That's enough of that kind of talk.

persuasive sales talk

That's fighting talk (=brave and confident words) from Italy's manager.

6. **be all talk spoken** someone who is all talk talks a lot about what they intend to do, but never actually does it

7. **be the talk of the town/Paris etc** someone who is the talk of the town has done something bad, shocking, exciting etc and everyone is talking about them:

She's the talk of London's theatre-goers since her last performance.

8. **talk is cheap** used to say that you do not believe someone will do what they say

⇒ ↑pep talk, ↑small talk, ⇒ idle talk at ↑idle¹(2), ⇒ pillow talk at ↑pillow¹(3)

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COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 1)

■ **verbs**

▪ **have a talk** I must have a talk with Frank before I leave.

■ **adjectives**

▪ **a long talk** I had a long talk with Nora this morning.

▪ **a little talk** I'm glad we've had this little talk.

▪ **a serious talk** Before she went to college, her father sat her down for a serious talk.

▪ **a quiet/private talk** She asked if she could have a private talk.

▪ **a good talk** (=a long talk about important or interesting things) She was upset, but we've had a good talk and things are okay now.

▪ **a nice talk** We all had lunch together and a nice talk.

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COLLOCATIONS (for Meaning 2)

■ **verbs**

- **have/hold talks** He called on the rebels to hold talks with the government.
- **enter into talks** (=start having talks) The Ambassador stated that France was prepared to enter into talks on the issue.
- **talks begin** Talks began in October and Venezuela said it expects an agreement to be signed soon.
- **talks continue/are underway** Talks will continue through the weekend.
- **talks break down/collapse** (=stop because of disagreement) Talks broke down today between the Russian and Japanese delegations.
- **talks resume/are resumed** Talks resumed in Geneva on April 19 after a month's break.
- **talks end** The talks ended without a settlement being reached.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + talks

- **peace talks** All four Arab delegations walked out of the Middle East peace talks yesterday.
- **trade talks** Trade talks between the EU and the Americans have once again collapsed.
- **high-level talks** (=involving important people) The announcement came after a morning of high-level talks.
- **budget talks** The dollar fell as U.S. budget talks appeared unlikely to produce an agreement.
- **direct talks** The President declared that he was now prepared to enter into direct talks with the rebels.
- **bilateral talks** (=involving two groups or countries) Bilateral talks led to the resumption of diplomatic relations.
- **round-table talks** (=when everyone can discuss things in an equal way) An election law, agreed during round-table talks, gave every voter the right to two votes.
- **urgent talks** The Prime Minister called ministers together for urgent talks.
- **crisis talks** (=talks to stop a situation getting worse or more dangerous) The unions will hold crisis talks with the company in a bid to save jobs.

■ phrases

- **a round of talks** (=a series of talks that is part of a longer process) A third round of talks was held in May.
- **the breakdown/collapse of talks** The collapse of the talks sent shock waves round the world.

talk

FreQUENCY Pack

12500 **293**^{MCW}

15000 **134**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k TALK** 289499

talk 136162

talked 38784

talking 93478

talks 20384

talker 478

talkers 213

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

35926 **516**⁷⁶⁴⁶⁰ *vvi*

20063 **1356**³¹⁰¹⁰ *nn1*

19658 **1467**²⁸⁶⁰⁶ *vv0*

60 **97222**⁶² *jj*

17 **177324**²⁰ *nnu*

4 **449335**⁴ *np1*