

# **Spoken English**

# Learn the art of asking for inputs

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The term 'asking for inputs' can mean different things to different people. It can mean asking for feedback, asking for reviews, asking for additional ideas and thoughts, etc. However, to get the required information, you should have excellent <a href="English conversational skills">English conversational skills</a>. You should know how to politely go about asking for inputs. Everyone wants to know other's thoughts about their work, ideas or action, but only the person who asks in the correct way gets it. There are certain things you should keep in mind while preparing to ask for feedback. It is often best to ask for it personally, preferably in a face to face meeting. Alternatively, you can also ask via email.



Things To Remember When Asking For Inputs:

#### 1. No expectations

Everyone likes to hear a positive feedback. However, it may not be the case every time. You should be prepared to hear negative feedback as well. Often, people would like to flatter others or maintain the good rapport. You can prevent that by asking your listeners to give honest and straightforward inputs.

#### 2. Ask beyond trusted people

It is natural for you to go to your trusted friends and colleagues to ask for feedback. However, for honest and challenging answers, ask acquaintances for inputs. This will increase your confidence in English conversation. You will be able to shed your inhibitions about <u>speaking in English</u>.

## 3. Ask for specific feedback

Always ask for specific inputs, instead of vague ones. This will help you in identifying specific areas for improvement. If an individual tries to give a vague input, ask for specific details.

## 4. Value their opinion

Let your listeners know that their suggestions are valued and appreciated. This will enable them to give wide

and honest opinions. You can use words like:

"I appreciate your feedback."

"I value your opinion." Or a simple

"Thank you so much."

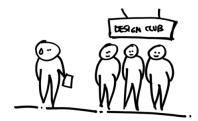


## Sample dialogues for asking for inputs:

- 1. What is your opinion about this idea?
- 2. What do you think about my performance?
- 3. Let me know your thoughts on this proposal.
- 4. Give me an honest feedback of this meeting.
- 5. Can you please be more specific?
- 6. Do you have anything to add?
- 7. Please give your suggestion on this discussion.
- 8. Please give an honest reply. I will appreciate it.
- 9. Your opinion matters to me.

## Written requests via email:

- 1. Awaiting your feedback.
- 2. Let me know your thoughts on this.
- 3. Would you like to add something to this mail?
- 4. Please share your honest opinion.
- 5. Please reply back with some suggestions.
- 6. If you have any difficulties, let me know.
- 7. I look forward to hearing from you.
- 8. Thank you in advance for feedback.



The above samples give you an idea about how to ask for inputs and feedback. They will give you great dialogue pointers to start your English conversation. Don't let poor English speaking skills hamper you from seeking areas of improvement. Take the help of an <u>online English training</u> to further improve your English

skills.

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## - By Shailja Varma

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