



Talk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

Talking is, of course, a ubiquitous human activity. In schools, students talk to one another in the classroom, on the playground, or in the lunchroom. Teachers talk to give instruction or to counsel students. Students talk to teachers to respond to questions or to express a concern. Describing different types of talking is one way to bring exceptional expressions into everyday events.

The word **talk** can be used as a verb as well as a noun. **To talk** is to communicate verbally, through speaking rather than writing. Since the way we talk carries with it our emotions and goals, spoken communication can take many forms. Shouting, whispering, and preaching convey very different attitudes on the part of the speaker, which in turn will affect the reactions of those who hear what is said.

Talk as a noun is the act of verbally communicating. A teacher can have a talk with his or her students about bullying. As with the verb **talk**, there are a variety of synonyms for the noun **talk**. For example, a teacher can have a serious discussion or conversation about bullying.

Follow-Ups

- How is articulating different from talking?
- How might a discussion be different from an utterance? A speech?

The Spanish Connection

Talk comes from a Middle English word, *talkien* or *talken*. The Spanish word for **to talk** is *hablar*. *Hablar* is not a Spanish cognate of **to talk**.

Word Changes

- Some synonyms of **talk** are also used as both verbs and nouns, for example, **chat**, **lecture**, and **gossip**.
- Many of the idioms and common phrases for **talk** incorporate the mannerism and intent of the speaker. For example, a person who “talks big” is someone who is boasting. “To talk in circles” is to repeat the same idea in a different manner that reveals nothing new and may even confuse the listener.



Talk



Talk as in a conversation (noun)

- conversation
 - chat
- discussion
 - slang
- dialogue
 - chatter
- lecture
 - address
- speech
 - meeting
- conference
 - summit
- utterance
 - gossip
- comment
 - debate

Talk as in to speak casually (verb)

- chat/chatter
- scuttlebutt
 - gossip
- comment
 - smooze
- mention
 - say
- utter
 - remark

Talk as in to speak (verb)

- speak
 - verbalize
- converse
 - vocalize
- articulate
 - communicate
- confer
 - dialogue

Talk as in to speak in a specific way (verb)

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| • whisper | • slur |
| • flirt | • bay |
| • snap | • jabber |
| • shout | • chant |
| • yell | • preach |
| • orate | • boast |
| • lecture | • debate |
| • pontificate | • enunciate |
| • address | • pronounce |
| • drone | • question |
| • stammer | • ask |
| • bark | • declare |



Talk

COMMON PHRASES

- Talk to me
- Talk back
- Talk over
- We need to talk

THE SPANISH CONNECTION

- conversation / conversación
- discussion / discusión
- to discuss / discutir
- dialogue / diálogo
- to have a dialogue / dialogar
- comment / comentario
- to comment / comentar
- to mention / mencionar
- to verbalize / verbalizar
- to converse / conversar
- to communicate / comunicar
- communication / comunicación
- pronounce / pronunciar
- to debate / debatir
- debate / debate
- enunciate / enunciar
- pronounce / pronunciar
- declare / declarar

IDIOMS

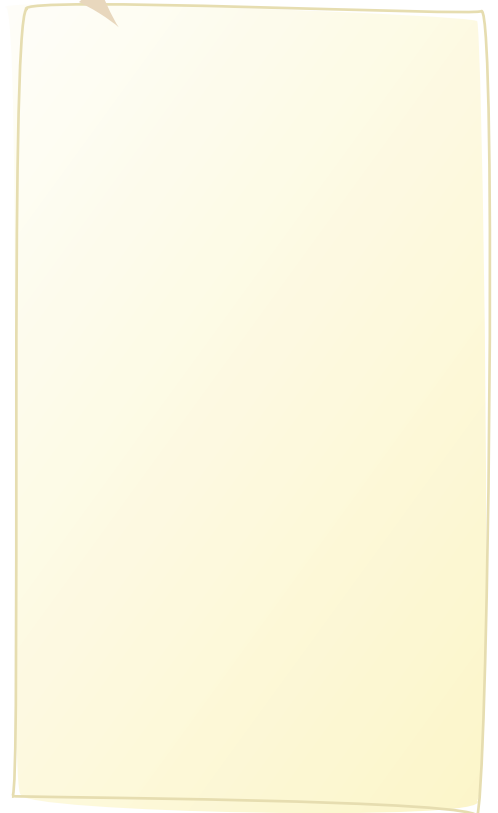
- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Talk a mile a minute | • Small talk |
| • Spit it out | • Speak of the devil |
| • Talk big | • Sweet talk |
| • Talk sense | • Talk your ear off |
| • Dance around the topic | • Talk in circles/riddles |
| • Speak up | • Talk shop |
| • Talk it up | • Walk the talk |
| • Talk down | • Talk your way out of a paper bag |
| • Talk is cheap | • Talk until your blue in the face |
| • Talk it over | • You're a fine one to talk |
| • Talking to a brick wall | • Shooting the breeze |
| • Talk of the town | |



Talk

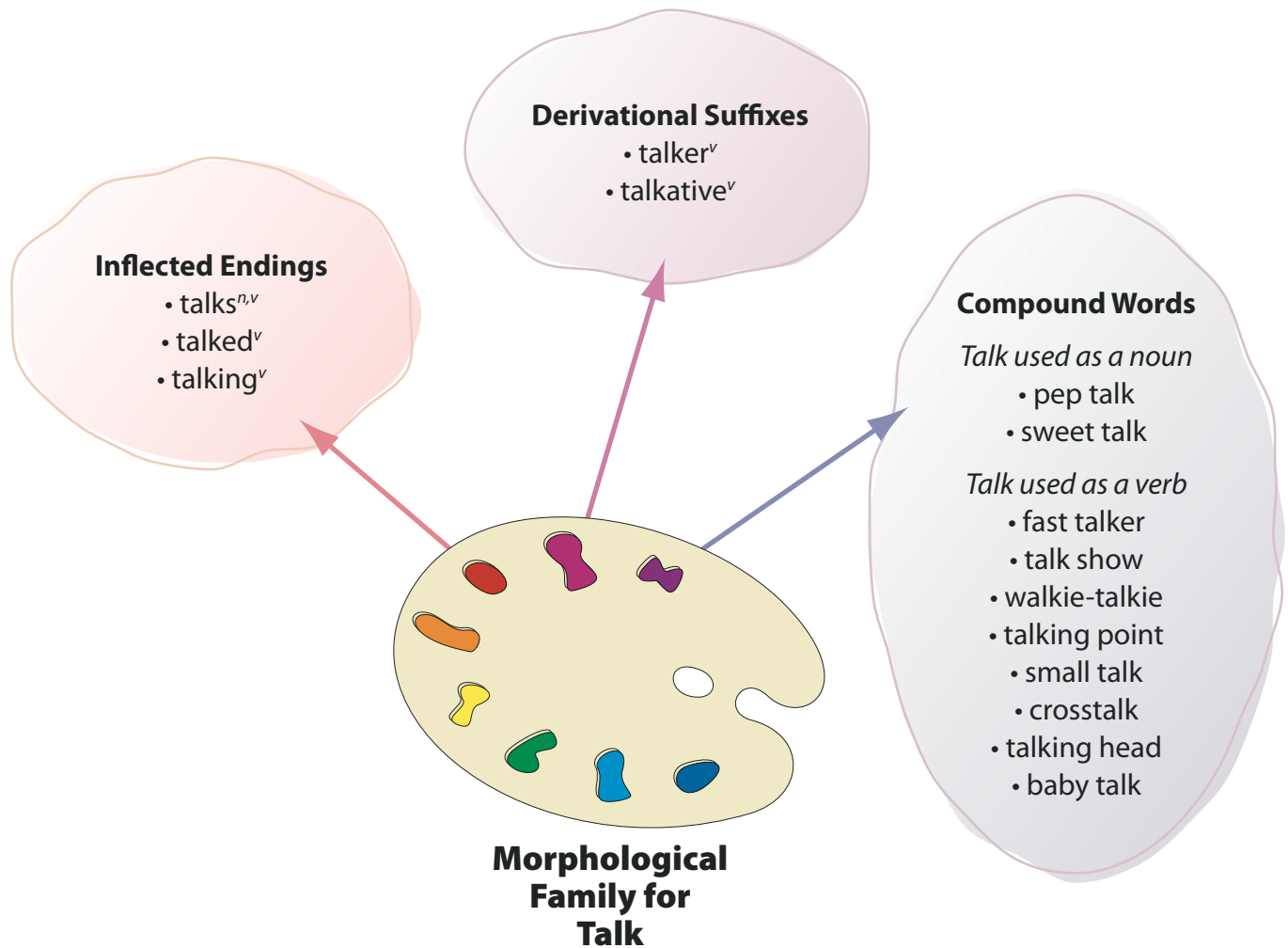


Talk





Talk



ⁿ Talk used as a noun

^v Talk used as a verb





Talk

