



How to Talk About Your Hobbies in Another Language

KS3

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Ages 11-14



3 min read

Why Talk About Your Hobbies?

When you're learning a new language like **French**, **Spanish** or **German**, one of the most useful things you can talk about is what you enjoy doing. Your hobbies are part of who you are, and talking about them helps people get to know you better. Whether you love **football**, **drawing**, **reading** or **gaming**, learning how to describe these activities is a brilliant way to practise your new language skills.

The Basic Formula

The easiest way to say what you like doing is to use the phrase "**I like**" plus the **activity**. In most languages, you add a special form of the verb called the **infinitive**—this is the base form of the verb that you find in a dictionary. For example, in Spanish you'd say "Me gusta jugar al fútbol" (I like to play football), and in French "J'aime jouer au football."

Think of it like building a sandwich: the bread is "I like," the filling is your activity, and together they make a complete thought that people understand.

Making It More Interesting

Once you've mastered the basics, you can add more details to make your answer richer and more interesting. You might say **when** you do your hobby ("on weekends" or "after school"), **how often** you do it ("twice a week" or "every day"), or **why** you enjoy it ("because it's fun" or "because I'm good at it"). You could also mention **who** you do it with—maybe your friends, family, or a **club**.

Another useful technique is to vary your language. Instead of just saying "I like," try phrases like "I love," "I enjoy," "I prefer" or "It's my favourite." These **synonyms** make your speech sound more natural and show you're learning more vocabulary.

Think of it like adding toppings to your sandwich—the basic idea stays the same, but you're making it more exciting and personal.

Talking About What You Don't Like

It's just as important to say what you **don't** enjoy. You might say "I don't like maths homework" or "I hate waiting around." This helps people understand the full picture of who you are. Using negative words like "don't like," "dislike" or "hate" shows you're confident using different parts of the language.

Practice Makes Perfect

The best way to get confident is to **practise**. Write down five things you enjoy and five things you don't. Then try saying them aloud in your new language. Ask your teacher or a friend to listen and give you feedback. The more you practise talking about your hobbies, the more natural it will feel, and soon you'll be able to chat about them without thinking too hard!