

**Hansei University Telephone English – Week 9**  
**Consoling a Friend After a Breakup (Making Small Talk)**

<p><b><u>Student</u></b>          Your friend’s girlfriend/boyfriend broke up with them. They’re feeling very down. You call to console them, and to take their mind off of their breakup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ask them what happened</li> <li>- DON’T SAY “Cheer up.”</li> <li>- make small talk* (talk about different light topics such as the weather, movies, sports, etc.)</li> <li>- Try and keep your your friend on the phone as long as possible</li> <li>- Let them know that you are there for them</li> </ul> <p>*(Prepare several different topics)</p>	<p><b><u>Friend = Professor</u></b>          Your significant other broke up with you. You’re feeling down. The student will call you and try to cheer you up; take your mind off of your break up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tell them you don’t want to talk about it</li> <li>- Let the student shoulder most of the conversation showing interest, or disinterest in the topics they bring up</li> <li>- At any point towards the end, tell them that you have to go.</li> </ul>
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<p><b><u>Target Vocabulary and Phrases</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Greetings</u></b>          Hey there.          How’s it going?          I heard about the break up.</p> <p><b><u>Useful Phrases</u></b>          I thought things were going well.          What happened?          I’m sorry to hear about what happened.          I understand.          Did you hear about...          Did you watch...          Have you gone to...          If you need anyone to talk to, I’m here for you.</p>	<p><b><u>Phrases Used by Friend</u></b></p> <p>It’s no big deal.          I don’t really feel like talking about it.          Hey, thanks for calling, but I should get going here.</p>
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