

Arlene's Dating Guide to Constructive Curiosity: Six Sample Questions

These are examples, not a script. For best results, adapt to the person.

Ask to know more about something you have learned online.

If the woman's profile says she loves to read, ask about the next book she wants to read, and why. If she loves to cook, ask her what she'd want a personal chef to fix for her birthday.

Allow the place you are meeting to suggest questions. "This is a beautiful walk," you can say. "I was thinking today that I feel the very best in the mountains, when I can see a long way off. Is there an place like that for you, one that makes you feel better than all the others?"

Draw her into a question that is interesting to think about.

"My friend reminded me that we used to play this desert island game: like what recording would you take if it could only be one? Or what book? What would you choose?"

When she volunteers something, ask a follow-up question.

"That sounds like a great trip. Whenever I go on vacation, I find myself imagining what it would be like to live there. Did you fantasize about that? Would it be fun to live there fulltime, or would you get bored?"

Without prying, invite her to share more of her life-story:

"When did you decide you first wanted to be a dancer? What inspired you?" Or, "If you couldn't be a teacher for some reason, what would you want to do?"

If you feel a connection, open a playful conversation.

"See those people with the binoculars? I think they're spies, pretending to be birdwatchers. What do you say?" Or ask a speculative question: "The other day, I told my friend I'd like to live to a hundred. He said, 'No way!' Would you want that?"

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