Date

Interpersonal Communication: Stages of Friendship

1. **First meeting**

* Affected by two things:
  + Physical appearance
  + Previous knowledge (reputations)
* Things to do:
  + Share names
  + Small talk
* Things not to do:
  + Share personal information
  + Argue (avoid religion and politics!)

1. **Acquaintances**

* Not quite strangers, but not quite friends
* Pleasant conversations, but don’t spend time together outside of work/school

1. **Friends**

* Talk more often and for long periods of time
* Discuss personal information
* Have special communication
  + Inside jokes or slang terms
  + Finish each other’s sentences
  + Understand each other’s nonverbals

1. **Best Friends**

* Spend a lot of time together alone over a long period of time
* Through time go through fights, hard times, and rough patches
* Special relationship
  + Predict each other’s reactions
  + Do nice things for each other
  + Stand up for each other
* People typically have 0-3 best friends