

Before We Say “I Do” Conversation Sampler

You're welcome to try this conversation out with your partner. Here's what you do. Read the opening part outloud. Then write responses for each of the prompts. When you're both done writing, come together, hold hands, and share your responses. You'll find that this two step process of Step 1) preparing for the conversation then Step 2) having the conversation makes it easy to have a really good talk.

Step 1. Introduction *(he reads out loud)*

This first conversation will be an enjoyable and important time to speak words of appreciation and love to each other as you prepare for marriage. You will also be given time to think and talk about the meaning of the vows you will say to each other on your wedding day.

Step 2. Quotation *(she reads out loud)*

Marriage is a natural institution established by God the Creator. It is a permanent, faithful, fruitful partnership between one man and one woman, established by their free, mutual consent. It has two purposes: the good of the spouses, called the unitive purpose, and the procreation and education of children. (from MARRIAGE: LOVE AND LIFE IN THE DIVINE PLAN A Pastoral Letter by the Catholic Bishops of the United States - Abridged Version)

Step 3. Preparing for the Conversation *(write separately)*

Continue by completing the conversation. **Note: You will each need your own copy of this conversation so that you can write your responses, either on your personal device or by printing paper copies and writing with a pen or pencil.** After you are done writing, save your document, wait until your partner has finished writing, then hold hands, sit close and begin to take turns sharing your responses.

(NOTE: These are just a few of the statements on this page.)

1. When we first met, one thing that impressed me about you was...

And I remember thinking that you were...

2. Some of the things I like most about you include...

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3. To say that I appreciate you means that I appreciate the way you...

4. When we are married, I'm especially looking forward to...

When you are both finished writing, save the document to your computer or device, and then, find a place where you can sit close. Hold hands, and beginning with # 1, take turns sharing your responses.