# Dear Dr._____

## How to Talk to Your Professor

Task 1.2

# Pre Task

What are two tips talked about in the video?

# Task goal and directions

Navigate difficult conversations with your professor in a professional manner.

1. Role play a teacher-student conversation
2. Write an email to a fictional professor
3. Share your email with the class (write feedback on your classmates' emails)

# 1. Role Play a teacher-student conversation

Read your task card. Talk to your "professor" about your problem. Ask your professor a key question. Switch roles.

# 2. Write an email to a fictional professor

With your partner, choose one of your task cards. Draft an email to a fictional professor. Be sure to use language that is both professional and polite.

# 3. Share your email with the class.

Decide who will read the email. Read the email aloud. Students listening will write down their feedback:

Does the email sound polite? Is there anything that could be considered rude? How would you react to this email if you were the professor?

# Mitigate

allay, assuage, alleviate, abate, moderate, extenuate, pacify, placate, subdue, ease, lessen, dull, relieve, weaken, reduce

# Zero Conditional

Zero conditional sentences express general truths—situations in which one thing always causes another or are **guaranteed**.

If you don't brush your teeth, you get cavities.

When people smoke cigarettes, their health suffers.

# First Conditional

First conditional sentences are used to express situations in which the outcome is **likely** (but not guaranteed) to happen in the future.

If you set your mind to a goal, you will achieve it.

If you rest, you will feel better.

# Second Conditional

Second conditional sentences are useful for expressing outcomes that are completely **unrealistic** or will **not likely** happen in the future.

If I inherited a billion dollars, I would travel to the moon.

If I owned a zoo, I might let people interact with the animals more.

# Third Conditional

Third conditional sentences are used to explain that present circumstances would be different if something different had happened in the past. These sentences express a condition that was **likely but did not actually happen** in the past.

If you had told me you needed a ride, I would have left earlier.

If I had cleaned the house, I could have gone to the movies.

Why is it important to use professional language when communicating with our professors?

# Exit Ticket 1.2