

Examples of Less Formal & More Formal Expressions in English

Less Formal	More Formal
a lot of	many, much, numerous, a great deal of
about	regarding
after that	thereafter
also / plus	moreover
answer	respond
ask for	request
at first	initially
better	superior, improved
breathing	respiration
buy	purchase
cheap	inexpensive
drink	beverage
eat	consume
end	terminate, complete
enough	sufficient
fix	repair
get	obtain, acquire
help	assist, assistance
home	residence
in the end	finally, ultimately
I've got to / I have to	I must, It is necessary for me to
kind of / sort of	rather, somewhat
leave	depart
let	permit

live	reside
lively	animated
need	require, necessity/requirement
next/later	subsequently
OK / all right	acceptable, satisfactory
old	elderly
people	persons, individuals
people say that...	it is said that...
right away	immediately
seem	appear
show	demonstrate
so	therefore, thus, consequently
start	begin, commence
start again	resume
stop	cease
sweat	perspire, perspiration
tell	inform
that's why	therefore
try	attempt
very, really	quite
want	desire, would like, wish
watch	observe
whole	entire
work	function
wrong	incorrect
you (<i>generic</i>)	one, everyone