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Making Friends in English

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PENGUIN QUICK GUIDES

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Getting started

Why *Making Friends*?


Imagine you're travelling to Britain on holiday or for business reasons. Or perhaps you're going to work there or in another English-speaking country for a short time? You want to meet and get to know people while you're there. Perhaps you learnt English at school but that was some time ago. What you really need now is a guide to some simple, up-to-date English phrases that are going to help you make friends and maybe more ... The *Penguin Quick Guide to Making Friends in English* is just the book for you.

What's in this book?

This book contains over 50 different conversations that will be useful from the

moment you step off the plane until you leave the country again. Obviously, no conversation is going to sound exactly the same as the ones in this book, and you will no doubt think of other ways of expressing the same idea. But we hope that the conversations in this book show you the simplest and most effective ways of saying things.

How is the book organised?

The book is divided into ten chapters covering familiar situations from different angles. Essential language – in other words, key sentences and questions – are highlighted in short conversations and sometimes accompanied by cultural or language notes. These notes are indicated by this symbol. 

The **Review** page at the end of each chapter tests your understanding. Answers to these questions are in the **Answers** section at the back of the book. The essential language is also listed in the **Index**. There is space under each entry for you to write the sentences in your own language. Read the notes on page 128 for guidance on using the **Index**.

Why is this book called a Quick Guide?

- It's short and guides you quickly to the most important language you will need for making friends.
- It's small enough to carry around with you.
- It's quick and easy to learn.

How do I use the book?

- Either read the book from start to finish or select a relevant chapter. For example, you may want to go straight to the chapter called *The invitation*, which presents useful language for inviting someone out, suggesting where to go and arranging to meet. Read the chapter. Why not practise the conversations aloud with a friend?
- Do the exercises in the **Review** at the end of the chapter. Then go to the **Answers** section at the back. Were you right?
- Try out the language as soon as you get a chance. It doesn't matter if you make mistakes or your pronunciation isn't perfect.

If you don't say anything at all, you'll never make any friends!

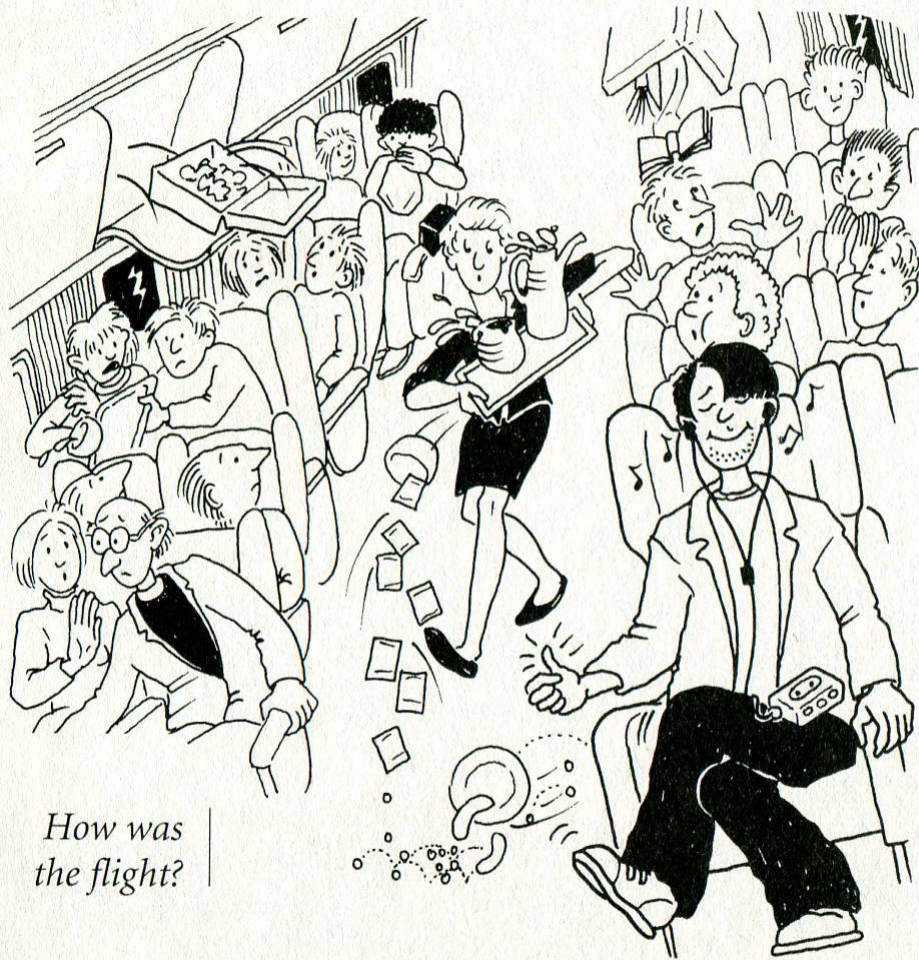
So, open the book now, read, and try to use the language as soon as you can. I hope you make a lot of good friends through English. Good luck!



Arrival

1

Your journey



How was
the flight?

MARK: Hi, Raúl! Sorry we're late! **Have you been waiting long?**

RAUL: No, I've only just come through.

MARK: **How was the flight?**

RAUL: OK. A bit bumpy but not too bad.

MARK: This is my sister Emma.

RAUL: Hello, Emma.

EMMA: Hi. **Good journey?**

RAUL: Yes, fine, thanks.

MARK: **Did you get any food on the flight?**

RAUL: Yes, thanks. We got a cold meal.

MARK: Oh good. Right. Shall we go?



When you arrive in Britain, people will ask you questions about your journey, your visit, your knowledge of English, and probably something about your country. Be prepared!

Your visit

EMMA: **Is this your first time in London?**

RAUL: No, I've been here once before but only for a few days.

EMMA: **How long are you staying here?**

RAUL: About three months altogether.

EMMA: **Are you working here or are you on holiday?**

RAUL: I've got a part-time job in a tapas bar in West London.

EMMA: **Where are you staying?** With Mark?

RAUL: Yes, I'm using his spare room.

EMMA: Bad luck! It's about the size of a dog kennel!



*Are you
working here
or are you
on holiday?*



Your English



Don't worry about making mistakes when you speak to English people. They probably don't speak *your* language very well!



EMMA: **Where did you learn your English?**

RAUL: Mainly at school.

EMMA: **How long have you studied it?**

RAUL: About six years. But I know I still do mistakes.

EMMA: **Do you want people to correct you?**

RAUL: Of course.

EMMA: Well, we say *I make mistakes* not *I do mistakes*.

RAUL: Oh, right. Thanks. English grammar is impossible!

EMMA: **Are you going to English classes while you're here?**

RAUL: No, I'm too lazy!

Your country

EMMA: **Where do you come from in Spain?**

RAUL: Well, at the moment I'm living in Madrid but my home town is Segovia.

EMMA: My geography is very bad. **Where's that in relation to Madrid?**

RAUL: It's about 50 kilometres north of the city.

EMMA: **What's Segovia like? Is it famous for anything?**

RAUL: It's nice, not too big. But we get a lot of tourists because it's a historical town.

EMMA: **When did you move to Madrid?**

RAUL: About a year ago. I got a job there.



Sorry,
where
exactly
is Spain?



Most British people are not very good at geography. They may know where your capital city is, but not much more than that.

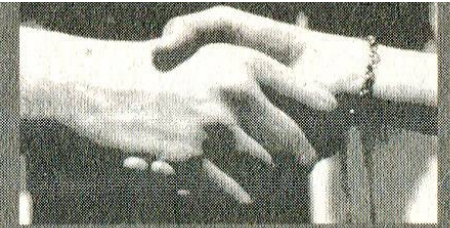
Review 1

A Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

- 1 How was the flight?
a) About an hour. b) It was fine. c) IB214.
- 2 Good journey?
a) Yes, it was good journey. b) Yes, fine, thanks.
c) Yes, it is, thank you.
- 3 Is this your first time in London?
a) No, I'm here before. b) No, I've been here before.
c) No, I come here before.
- 4 Where did you learn your English?
a) From school. b) At school. c) To school.
- 5 Do you want people to correct you?
a) Yes, please. b) Yes, is all right. c) No, is good.

B Write questions for these answers.

- 1 No. About five minutes. Anyway, I don't mind waiting.
- 2 From a town on the north-east coast. A few kilometres north of Barcelona.
- 3 English? For eight years altogether.



Have you
met ...?

Hot tips!



How to greet people for the first time When you meet someone of your own age for the first time, you can either shake hands or simply nod your head and smile. It is unusual for British people to kiss or slap each other on the back when they first meet.



Names in introductions It is common to use first names only if the situation is informal. When you are introduced to someone, try to listen to the name. If necessary, ask for repetition: *Sorry, I didn't quite catch that. What's your name again?* can be quite a good way to start a conversation.



Conversational clues When people introduce another person, they will often add a sentence to describe that person: *Meet John. John's in computers* or *John and I used to go to school together*. This can give you a clue for continuing the conversation, e.g. *Oh yes, what sort of computer work do you do?* or *Where was the school?*

Most British men are not very happy about kissing other men.



Introducing yourself

LUCY: **Hello. I don't think we've met.**

RAUL: No, we haven't. I'm Raúl, Mark's friend from Spain.

LUCY: **Hi! My name's Lucy. I'm a friend of Mark's from work.**

RAUL: Oh right. Nice to meet you.

SIMON: **Hello. I'm Simon, Mark's flatmate.**
You must be Raúl.

RAUL: That's right. Hi. It seems a really nice flat.



It seems a really nice flat.

Introducing friends



Sam, this
is Raúl.

MARK: Raúl, come with me and I'll introduce you to a few people.

RAUL: OK.

MARK: **Have you met Lucy?**

LUCY: Yes, we've already met.

MARK: OK, in that case, **meet Sam**. Sam and I were at college together. **Sam, this is Raúl**. Raúl's a mate of mine from Spain.

SAM: Hi, Raúl. I was just having a word with Emma. **Do you know Emma, Mark's sister? Emma ... Raúl.**

RAUL: Yes, we met at the airport. Hi Emma!

Formal introductions

MAN: Tom, have you met Sue Maynard, our sales manager?

TOM: I don't think so, no.

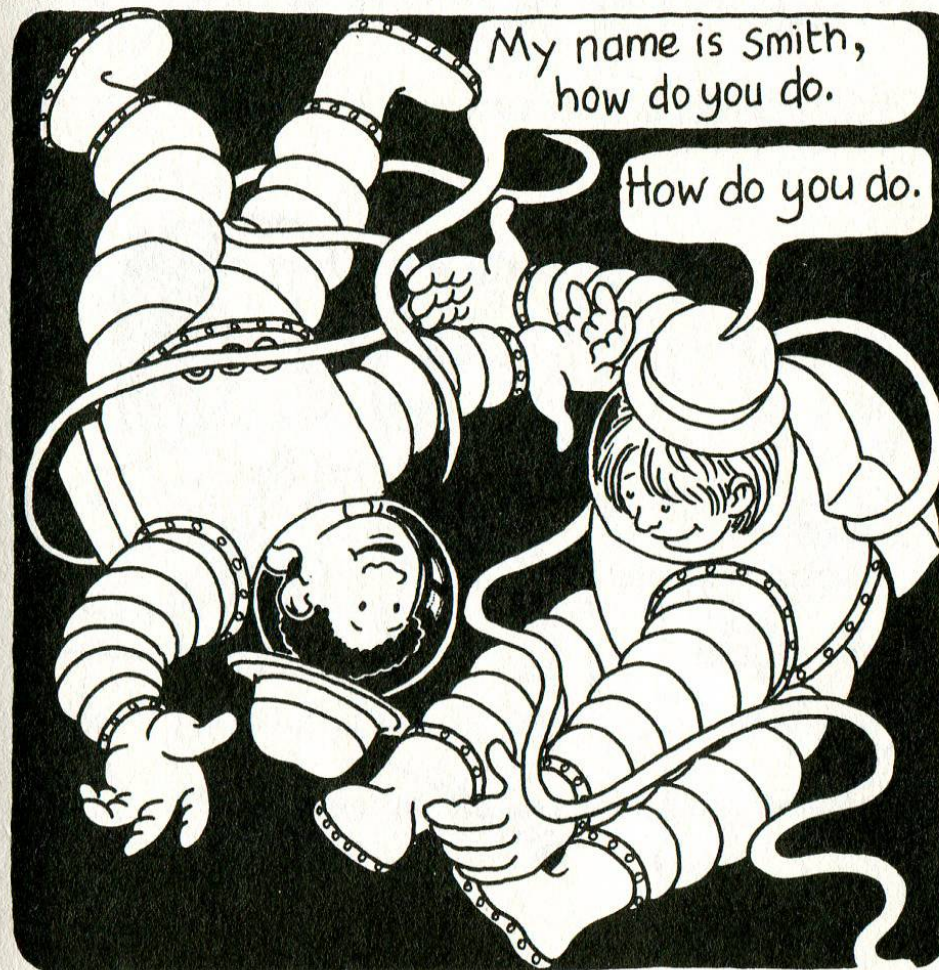
MAN: Then **let me introduce you. Sue, this is Tom Brooks, from IBC Rome.**

TOM: **How do you do.**

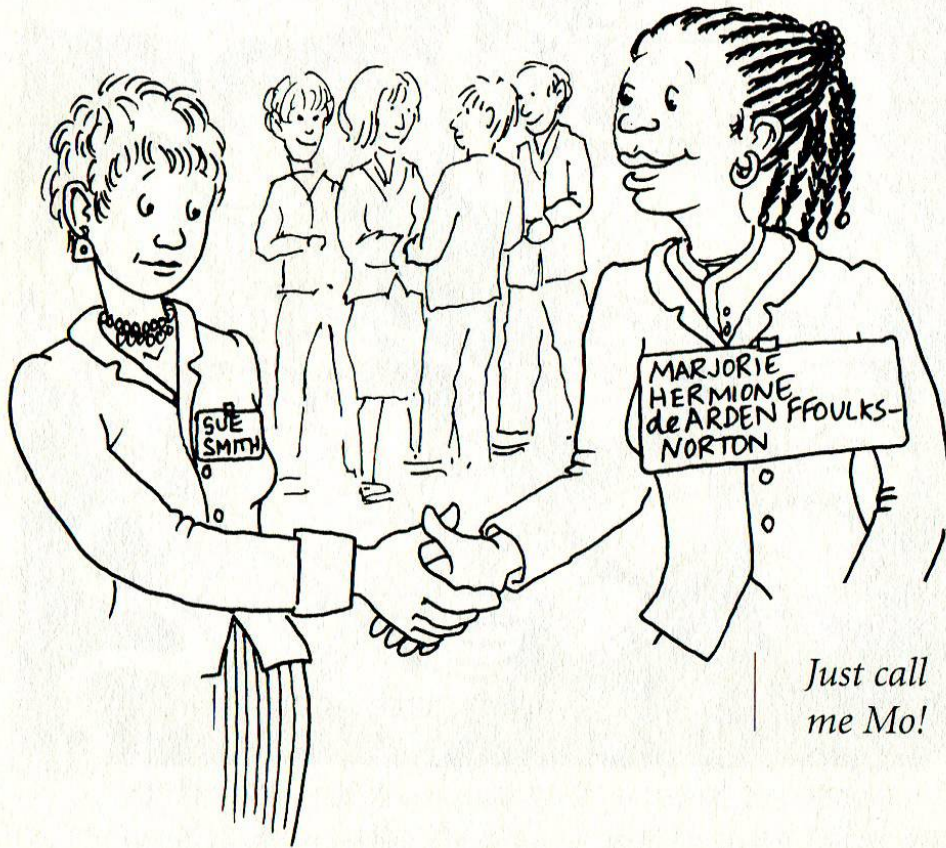
SUE: How do you do. **Pleased to meet you.**
When did you arrive?



Formal introductions In formal situations, shake hands, smile and say: *How do you do*. You do not need to add *Mr/Mrs/Miss* and the surname. If you meet the person again, just say *Hello*. There is no need to shake hands again.



Handling unusual names



MARK: Dede, come and talk to Raúl. It's his first day in London.

DEDE: **Sorry, what's your name again?**

RAUL: Raúl.

DEDE: **Can you say it once again?**

RAUL: (slowly) Ra ... úl. It's a Spanish name. And your name is ... ?

DEDE: Dede. **It's short for Deirdre.**

RAUL: (slowly) Deirdre. **How do you spell that?**

DEDE: D-E-I-R-D-R-E.

RAUL: That's too hard for me. Dede is much easier!

Review 2

A Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

- 1 Hello. I don't think we
a) met b) meet c) 've met
- 2 Lucy, know Raúl?
a) do you b) have you c) will you
- 3 A: How do you do. B:
a) How are you. b) Very well. c) Nice to meet you.
- 4 Jenny, let me introduce you.
a) Here is Paul. b) This is Paul. c) He is Paul.
- 5 Sorry. I didn't catch that.
a) You tell me your name again. b) What's your name again? c) How is your name again?

B Are these statements True (T) or False (F)?

- 1 *How do you do* is a formal way of greeting someone.
- 2 When people say *How do you do*, they want to know about your health.
- 3 British people usually kiss when they meet for the first time.



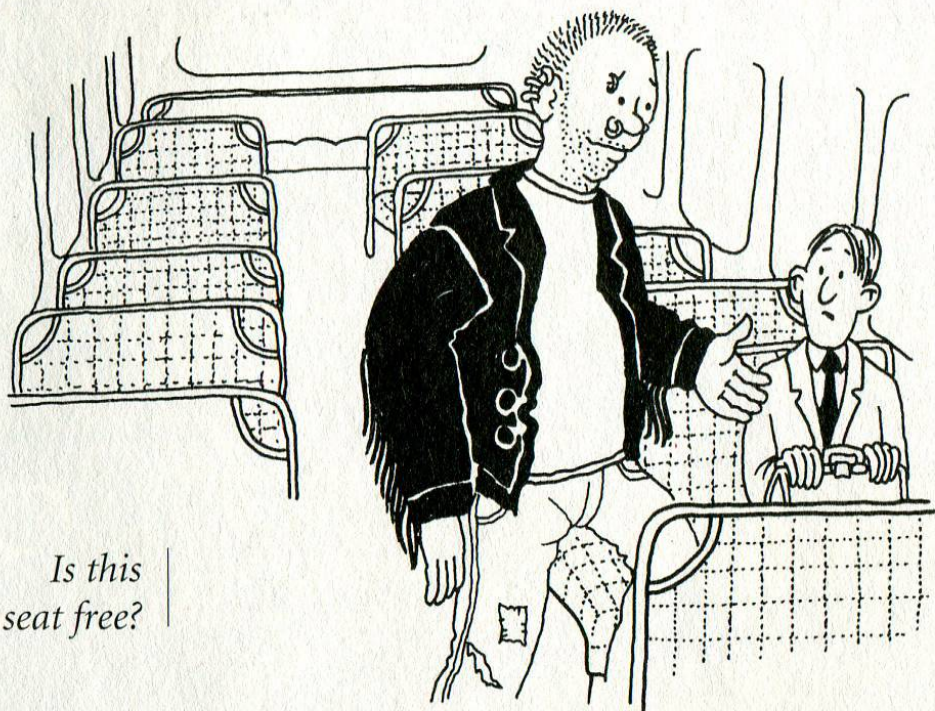
Hello stranger!

3

A few rules



Making new friends is never easy, especially in a foreign city. But occasionally an opportunity arises to say a few words to a stranger and this can sometimes lead on to a pleasant conversation. Before you start chatting, there are a few rules.



*Is this
seat free?*



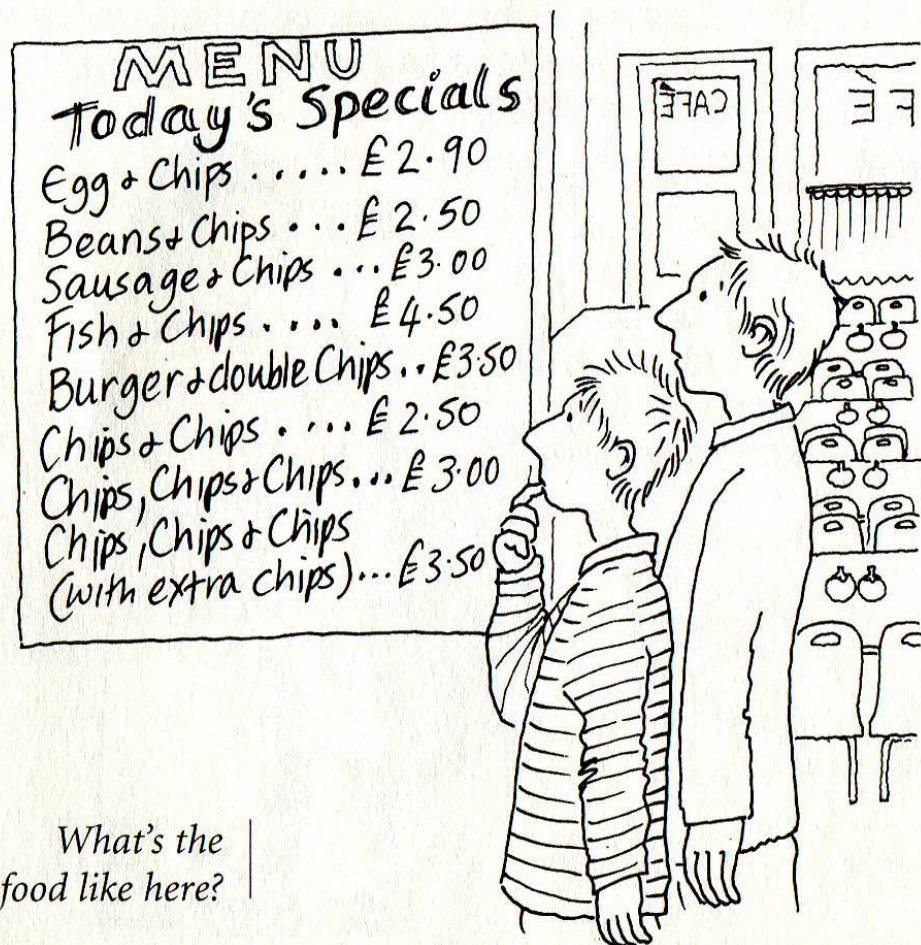
Where to sit If you get on a bus, tube or train, don't sit next to a stranger, however pleasant he or she may look, if there is a free seat somewhere else. Choosing a seat next to someone is only acceptable if the bus or train is full. The same goes for when you are in a café. Don't sit next to or opposite someone if another table is free. It can appear threatening.



How close to stand When you talk to a stranger, don't stand or put your face too close. You should try and keep at least 50 cm between you.



In a café



WOMAN 1: **Excuse me, is this seat free?**

WOMAN 2: Sure.

WOMAN 1: Thanks. **Do you think you could pass the sugar?**

WOMAN 2: Of course.

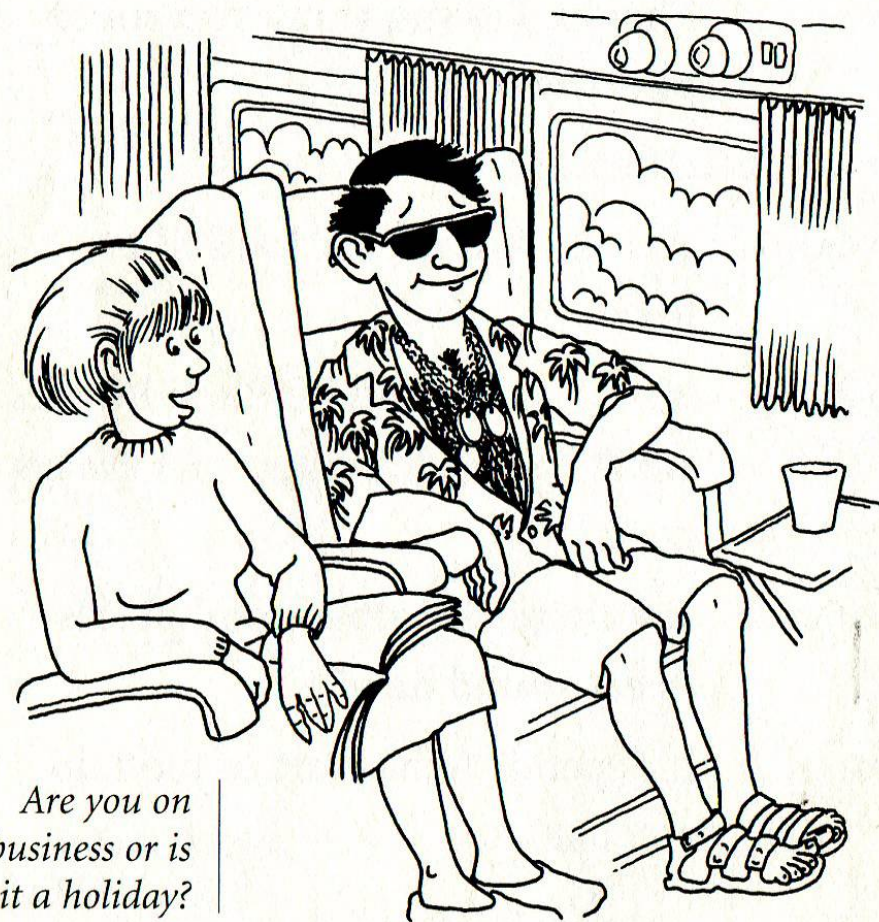
WOMAN 1: Thanks. **What's the food like here?**

WOMAN 2: It's OK. The salads and sandwiches aren't bad and the chips are always good.

WOMAN 1: **Are there any other good places to eat round here?**

WOMAN 2: It depends. What sort of food do you like?

On a plane



*Are you on
business or is
it a holiday?*

WOMAN: Here comes our lunch. **It looks very dull, doesn't it?**

MAN: Yes, it's typical airline food.

WOMAN: **Are you going to London on business or is it a holiday?**

MAN: Neither. I live there. I'm just returning from a business trip.

WOMAN: Oh right. **What sort of work do you do?**

Later ...

WOMAN: **Can you tell me ... what's the best way of getting to the centre of London from the airport?**

MAN: Well, there are a number of ways. Where do you actually want to go?

At a bus stop

RAUL: Does the number 9 stop here?

WOMAN: Yes, I'm waiting for one myself.

RAUL: Does it go as far as Marble Arch?

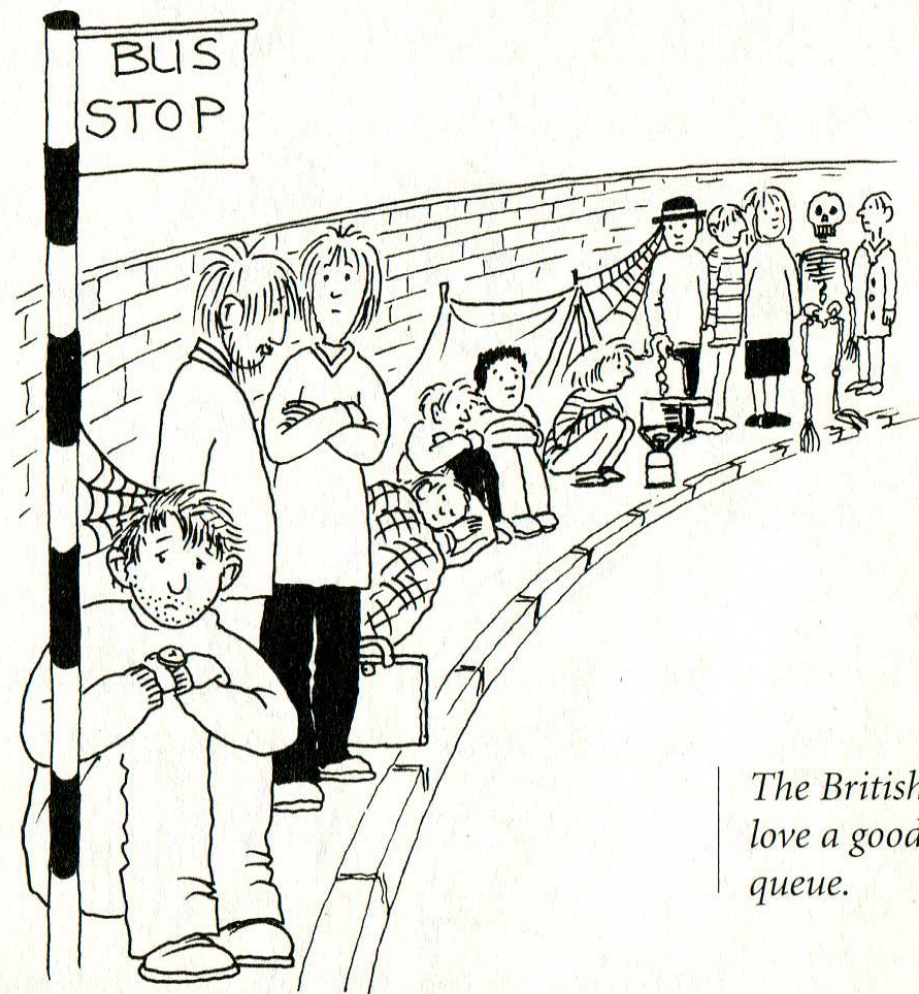
WOMAN: Yes, it goes all the way to Piccadilly.

RAUL: There's quite a queue! **Have you been here long?**

WOMAN: About five minutes. Here's one now.

RAUL: **Could you tell me when we get to Marble Arch?**

WOMAN: Of course. Is this your first time in London?



*The British
love a good
queue.*

In a pub or bar



*Can I
buy you
a drink?*

SIMON: **Busy, isn't it?**

MAN: Terrible. It's Friday night, that's why.
You can hardly move after nine thirty.

SIMON: **Do they sell food in here?**

MAN: No, but there's a good café around the corner.

SIMON: Oh right. Thanks. **Is this your local?**

MAN: Not really, I just quite like the place.

BARMAN: Yes, sir?

SIMON: A pint of lager please. Kronenburg if you've got it. **Can I buy you a drink?**

MAN: Oh, thanks. I'll have the same again, please. Just a half.

SIMON: So, **do you live round here?**

Opening lines



Starting conversations with strangers isn't the easiest thing in the world. There are no clear rules, but if you look back at the previous conversations, you will notice that most of the time people do one or other of these:

Ask for information

Does this bus go as far as Marble Arch?
Do they sell sandwiches in here?

Ask for help

Could you tell me when we get to Marble Arch?

Make a request

Do you think you could pass the sugar?

Ask for an opinion

What's the food like?

Ask a personal question (but not too personal!)

Do you live round here?

Make an offer or invitation

Can I get you another drink?

Make a comment

It looks very dull, doesn't it? Busy, isn't it?



If a stranger makes a comment about something we often use a similar, stronger adjective to agree:

A: Busy, isn't it? – B: Terrible!

A: Lovely day, isn't it? – B: Brilliant!

A: Big, isn't it? – B: Massive!



Review 3

Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

- 1 Are you here business?
a) to b) on c) in
- 2 It looks a bit boring, it?
a) isn't b) is c) doesn't
- 3 Does the number 10 bus here?
a) stop b) stops c) to stop
- 4 A: here long? B: No, I only got here a few minutes ago.
a) Are you b) Do you wait c) Have you been
- 5 Could you tell me when there?
a) do we get b) we get c) will we get
- 6 What's the best way the centre of London?
a) of getting to b) to getting to
c) how to get to
- 7 Do you think the salt and pepper?
a) could you pass b) you could pass c) to pass
- 8 sell snacks in here?
a) Does it b) Does one c) Do they

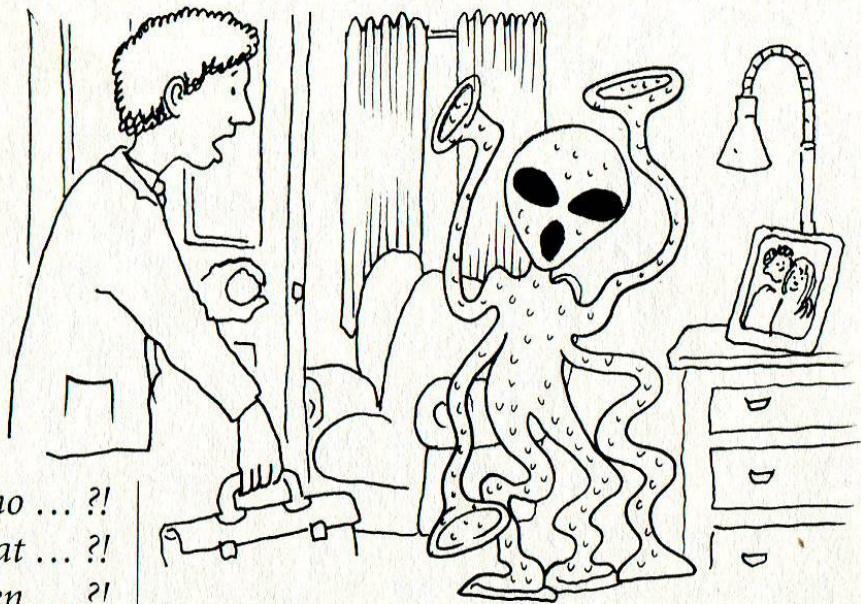


The art of conversation

Open questions



For easier conversation, use 'open' questions starting with *What? Where? When? Who? Why? How?* rather than closed questions which require only a *yes/no* answer. Or start with the phrase: *Tell me ...* Then the other person can answer in any way they want.



Who ... ?!
What ... ?!
When ... ?!
How ... ?!

MARK: **What sort of pizza do you prefer?**

LUCY: I like American Hot best.

RAUL: **How do you get to work?**

SIMON: I usually take the tube and then walk.

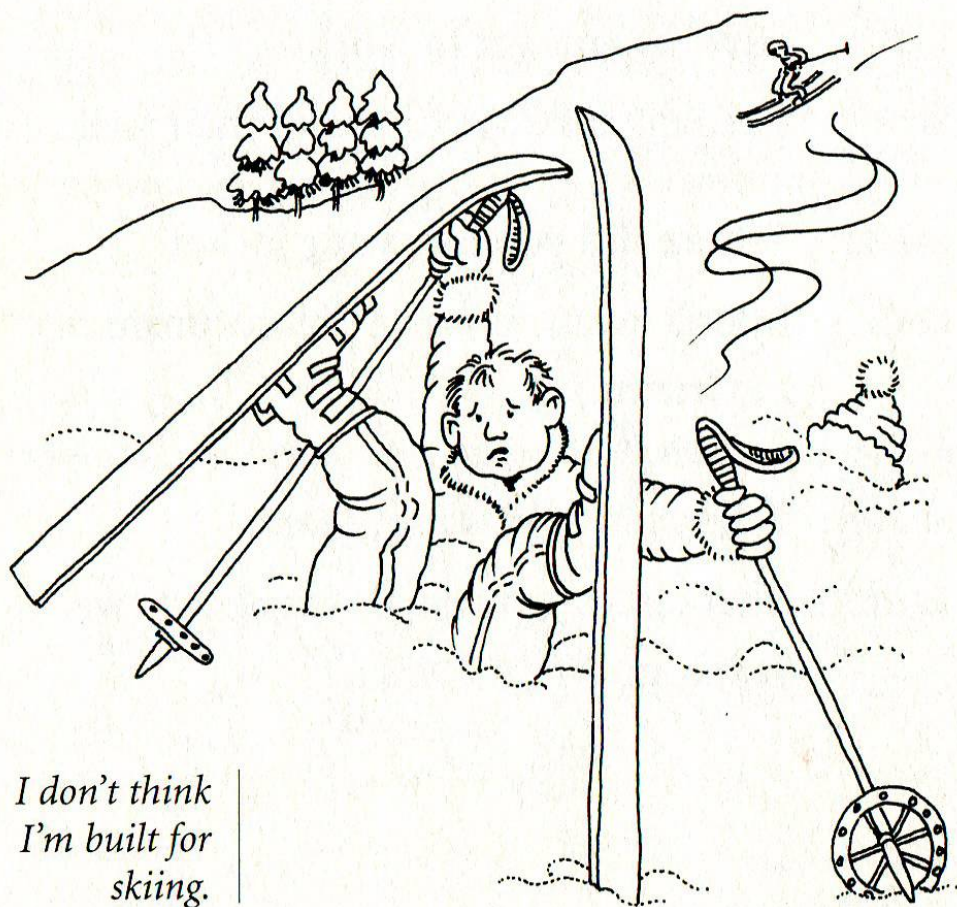
EMMA: **Where did you buy your jacket?**

LUCY: I don't know. It was a present from my boyfriend.

SIMON: **Tell me how you met Mark.**

RAUL: That's a long story. It was about two years ago when I was ...

Showing interest



*I don't think
I'm built for
skiing.*



Think of someone you know who is good at making conversation. Notice how they show interest in what the other person is saying. How do they do it?

By making a remark *Really? How awful! That's interesting!*

MAN: I don't think I'm built for skiing.

WOMAN: Really?

By making a remark and then asking a further question

MAN: I'm going walking in the Himalayas.

WOMAN: That sounds exciting. Are you going on your own?

By using a short question *Did you? Are you?*

WOMAN: I broke my arm when I was six.

MAN: Did you? How did you do that?

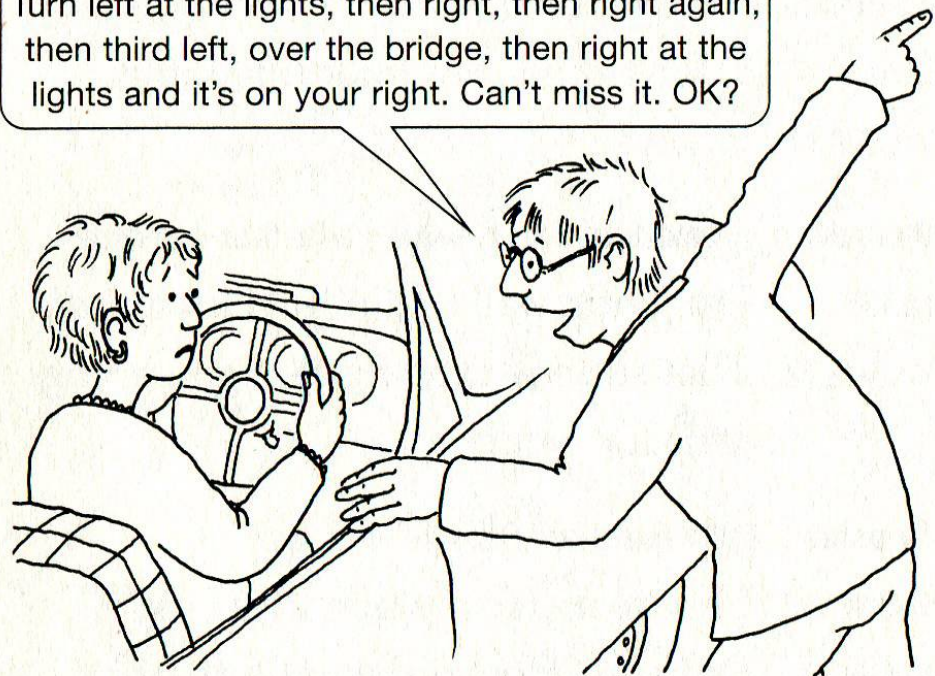
By repeating the last or most important words

WOMAN: I've just bought four pairs of jeans.

MAN: Four!

Checking

Turn left at the lights, then right, then right again, then third left, over the bridge, then right at the lights and it's on your right. Can't miss it. OK?



We use checking language to make sure that the other person has understood us. This can be a one-word check question, e.g. *Right?* *OK?* or a fuller question, e.g. *Do you follow me?* or *Are you with me?* or *Do you know what I mean?*

MARK: I'll see you outside the cinema. **Right?**

LUCY: OK. What time?

SIMON: I'll get some more coffee when I go out.
Yeah?

MARK: Sure. Do you want some money?

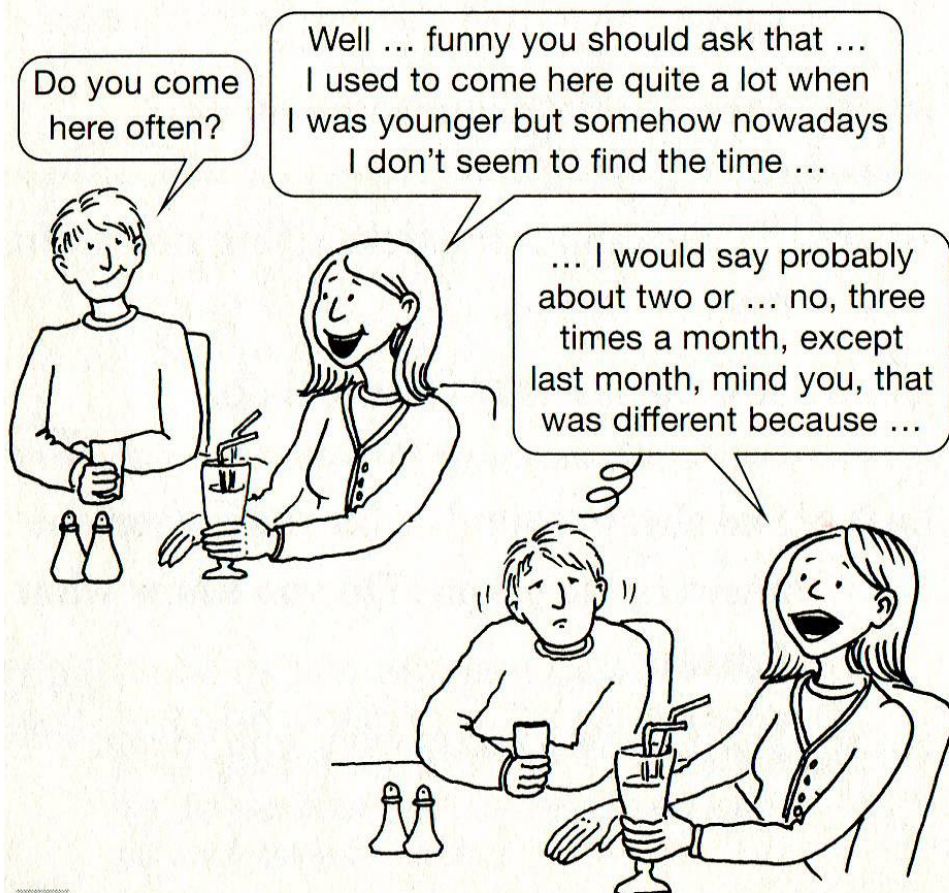
MARK: I'll ring about the tickets this afternoon.
OK?

RAUL: Yes, thanks. Any seats will do.

EMMA: She always sounds a bit rude when she answers the phone. **Do you know what I mean?**

LUCY: Yes, I know exactly what you mean.

Expanding your answer



If someone asks you a question, even if it is a closed question, try not to answer with just *yes* or *no*. It sounds much friendlier if you can expand your answer and give a bit more information. This gives the other speaker an idea of what to say next.

WOMAN: Do you like this sort of music?

MAN: **Yes, I've always liked modern jazz.**

MAN: Do you live round here?

WOMAN: **Yes, I've got a flat at the top end of North Street.**

BOY: Do you want some more pasta?

GIRL: **No, thanks. I've had more than enough already.**

GIRL: Did my father phone?

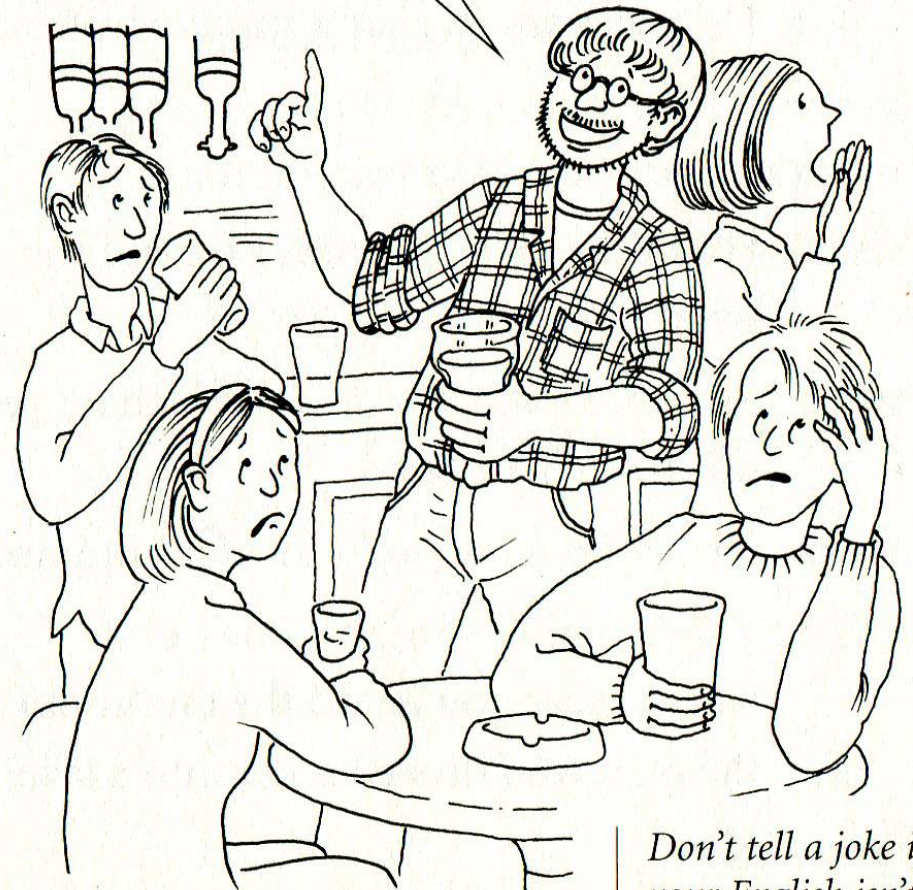
WOMAN: **No, nobody's phoned all evening.**

Telling jokes and stories

Telling a joke successfully

- 1 Introduce your stories with a suitable phrase:
Do you want to hear a joke?
Have you heard the one about ...
That reminds me of a joke about ...
- 2 When you tell a joke with a story line, use the present tense. It sounds more natural.
- 3 Don't tell a joke if your English isn't good enough!
- 4 Don't choose a very long joke.
- 5 Don't laugh at the punch line (the last line) before you say it.

Now I am thinking I will tell a ... what is the word, a good story that you will laugh, a yock? Sorry, a joke, in English, if this is all right, yes?



Don't tell a joke if your English isn't good enough.

That reminds me ...

MARK: **Do you want to hear a stupid elephant joke?**

SIMON: Go on.

MARK: How does an elephant get down from a tree?

SIMON: I don't know. How *does* an elephant get down from a tree?

MARK: He sits on a leaf and waits for autumn!

SIMON: That's terrible! But this one's even worse. **Have you heard the one about the man who drove his car into a lake?**

MARK: No?

SIMON: He was trying to dip his headlights.

MARK: Ow! **That reminds me of another one.**

An English farmer is visiting his American cousin, who is also a farmer, in Texas. The Texan farmer is boasting about his farm. 'My farm is so big that it takes me a whole day to drive around it,' he says. The Englishman looks at his cousin and replies, 'Yes, I know what you mean. I used to have a car like that too.'

Review 4

A Complete the questions using a question word.

Who What When Where

Why How often How many

- 1 do you go back to Madrid? Every month?
- 2 did you decide to move? The weather?
- 3 sort of books do you like reading?
- 4 kilometres is it to the airport?
- 5 exactly does your flight leave?
- 6 are you hoping to stay? In a hotel?
- 7 is going to be your new boss?

B Match 1–4 with a–d.

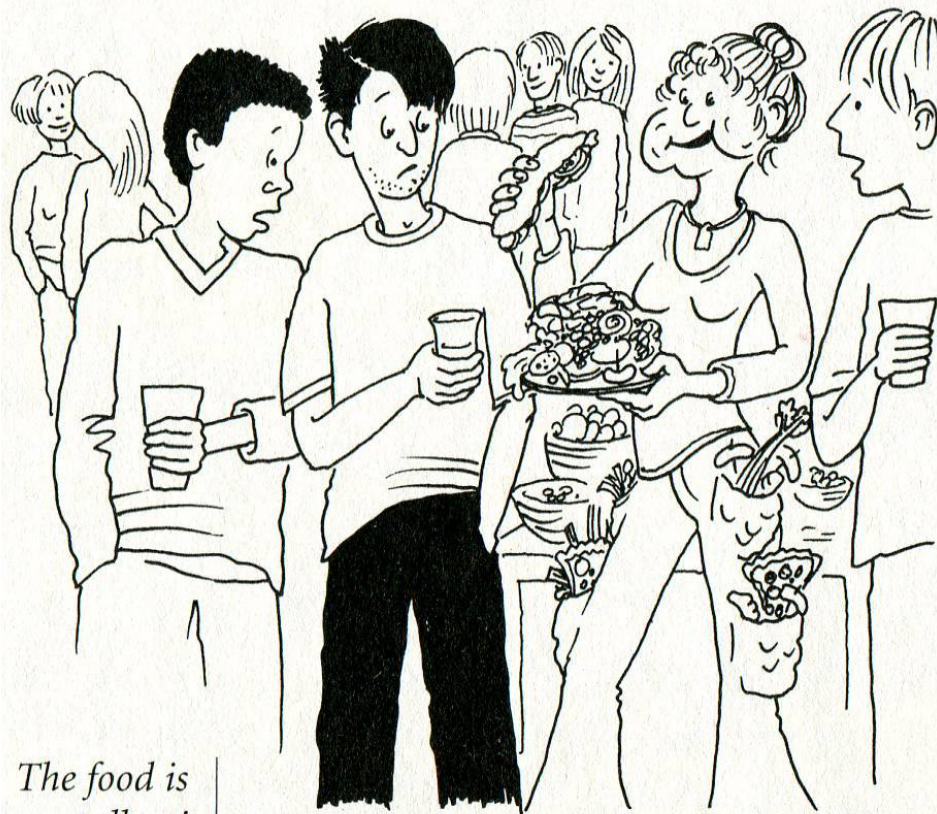
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 I've just been sacked. | a) Really? Which part? |
| 2 My sister's a pilot. | b) That's generous. |
| 3 My dad's just given
me £100. | c) How awful! |
| 4 I'm off to Canada
next week. | d) Really? That's an
unusual job for a
woman. |



Party time

5

Great party!



The food is
excellent!

MARK: Hi, Sam. **Great party!**

SAM: Thanks.

MARK: **I like this music.**

SAM: It's good, isn't it? How are you all doing? Is everything OK?

MARK: Fine. **This food is excellent**, by the way. But what are the white things?

SAM: Ask Raúl – he brought them.

RAUL: It lives in the sea ... with eight legs

CLARE: You mean *octopus*?

RAUL: That's right. Try some – **they're really good!**



Timing Unless you are asked to come at a specific time, informal parties usually start quite late. Some people don't arrive until the pubs shut at around 11 pm. Parties are likely to go on until the small hours.

Who knows who?

GIRL: **Do you know everybody here?**

RAUL: No, I don't. Hardly anybody.

GIRL: **How do you know Sam?**

RAUL: He's a friend of Mark's. How about you?

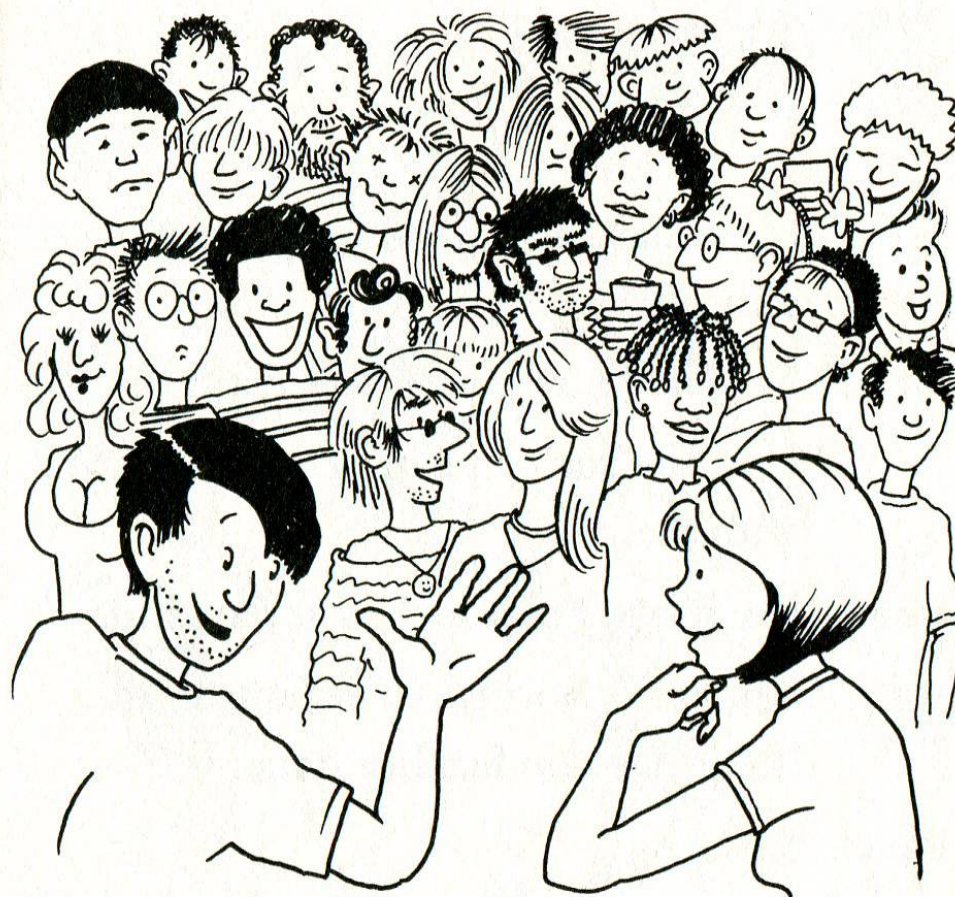
GIRL: Sam and I go to the same gym.

RAUL: He's a nice guy. **How long have you known him?**

GIRL: About a year or so.

RAUL: **Who else do you know here?**

GIRL: Well, that's Sam's girlfriend, Clare ...



*Do you know
everybody here?*

Dancing

LUCY: I love this song. **Shall we go and dance?**

MARK: No, you know I don't like dancing.

LUCY: Don't be such a pain! Come on, **dance with me!**

MARK: No, really. **I'm hopeless at dancing.**

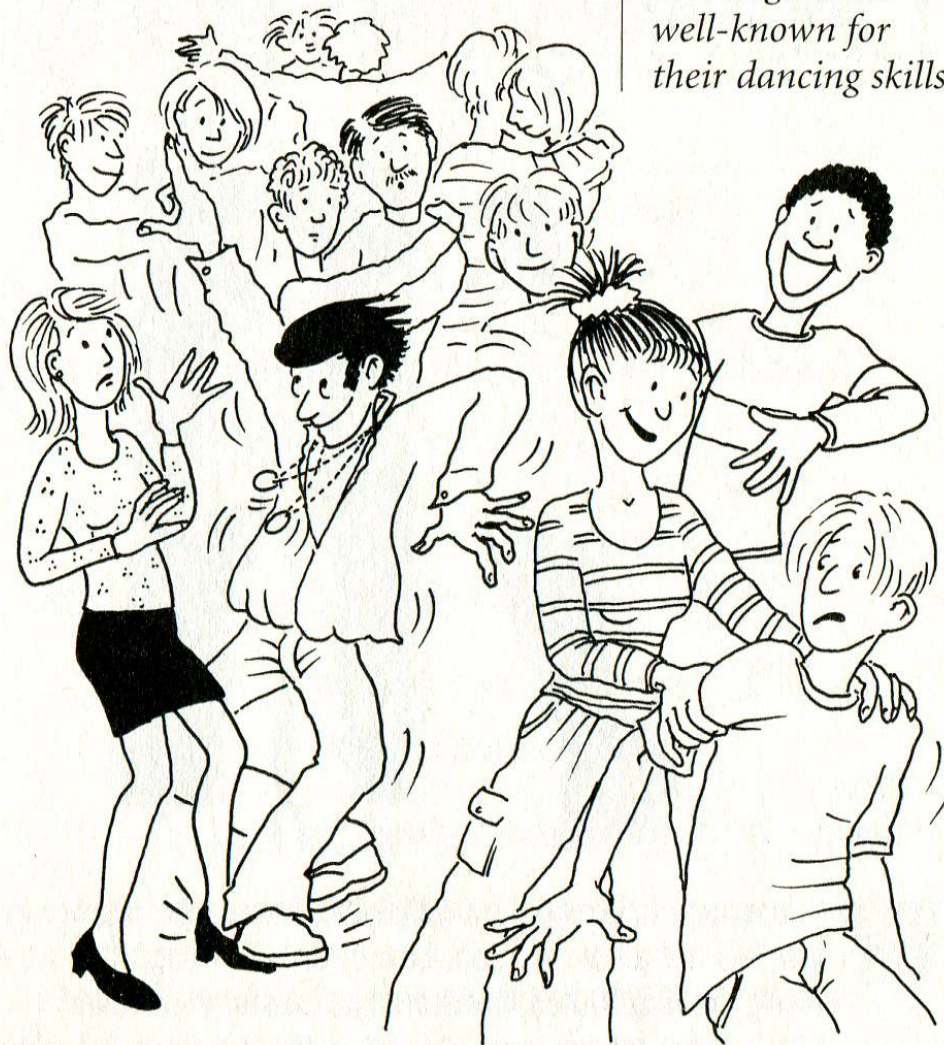
LUCY: You are so boring! What about you, Raúl? **Do you feel like dancing?**

RAUL: Sure.

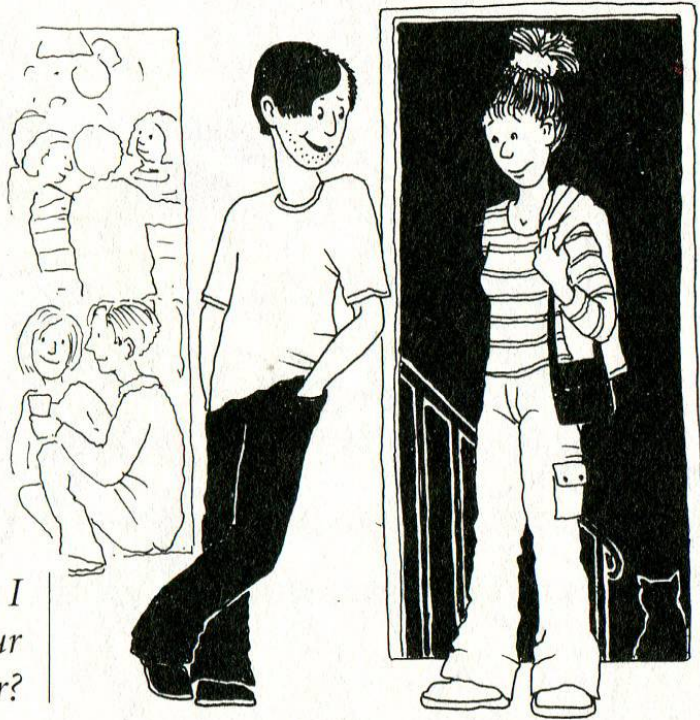


Bringing a bottle Most people expect you to bring a bottle if they invite you to a party. You don't need to bring a gift unless it's a special occasion such as a birthday party.

The English are well-known for their dancing skills.



Leaving the party



Can I
take your
number?



Transport In London and other big cities, tube trains run late but not all night; night buses run all through the night along popular routes. London taxis (sometimes called black cabs) are licensed and are safer and more reliable than mini-cabs. They are not always more expensive.

LUCY: It's getting late. **What time is the last tube, Sam?**

SAM: I think it's gone.

LUCY: **Are there any night buses?**

SAM: I'm not sure. Sorry.

LUCY: **Do you mind if I use your phone to call a taxi?**

SAM: Go ahead.

RAUL: Are you leaving already, Lucy?

LUCY: Yes, I'm afraid I've got to go. I've got an early start tomorrow.

RAUL: Er ... **Can I take your number?**

LUCY: Sure, it's 0958 672234. It's my mobile.

RAUL: **Great. I'll give you a ring sometime.**

LUCY: Cool.

Saying thank you



Saying thank you Saying thanks for a party is usually a very casual affair among young people. If it's a good party, you might like to phone or send a short email afterwards to say how much you enjoyed it.

email to sally

Hi Sally

Hope you're feeling OK this morning!

Thanks for a great party – we had a really good time.

See you soon.

Lisa and Antoine

: -)



Review 5

A Add the missing words.

- 1 do you know Robert?
- 2 You know Sue well. have you known her?
- 3 we go and find something to eat?
- 4 Do you feel dancing?
- 5 I'm hopeless singing.

B Reorder the conversation. The first one is correct.

- 1 How do you know Sue, by the way?
- 2 So early! What's your name, by the way?
- 3 No, thanks. Do you feel like dancing?
- 4 That's a nice name. Can I take your number?
- 5 No, I'm hopeless at it. Anyway, I've got to go.
- 6 Sorry, I'm not on the phone. Bye!
- 7 Natalie.
- 8 We're friends from college. Another drink?



The invitation

Words of advice



If you invite someone out:

Make the first date quite casual: maybe a drink, lunch or perhaps the cinema. If the whole thing is a mistake, at least it won't last too long.

Be prepared to pay. When you get to know the other person better, you can agree to share the bill if you are both happy about it.

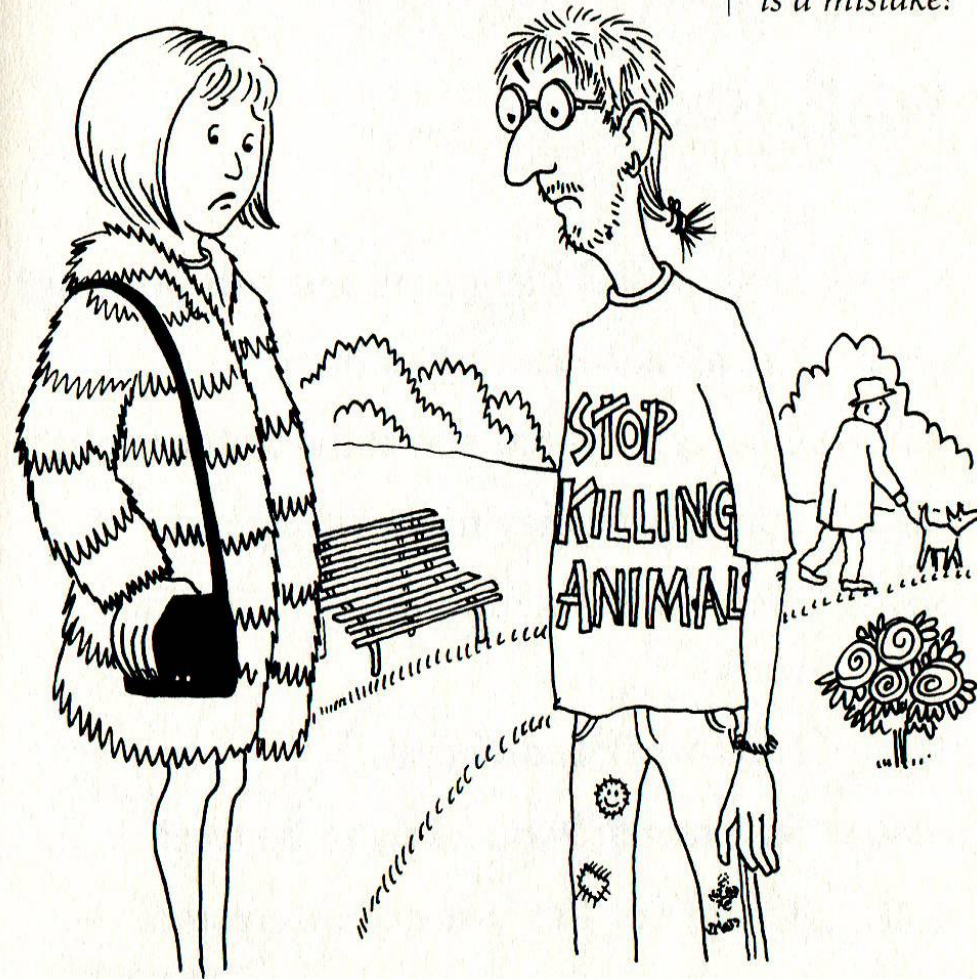


If someone invites you out:

Don't agree to go on a date if you don't want to. If the person presses you, say clearly that you are not interested. You don't want to get into an embarrassing situation later on.

Meet in a neutral place, outside your home, then if things go wrong, it is easier to walk away.

*Perhaps this
is a mistake?*



Inviting and refusing

SIMON: **Do you feel like going out this evening?**

GIRL: **I'm afraid I can't. I'm busy.**

SIMON: Oh, right. **What about Saturday night?**

GIRL: **Sorry, Saturday night's no good.**

SIMON: Well, what evenings are you free next week?

GIRL: **Next week is difficult.**

SIMON: So when are you likely to be free?

GIRL: **Sorry, but I'm just not interested.**



Inviting and accepting

Are you doing anything this evening?

Er, no ...
absolutely
nothing.



RAUL: Lucy? It's Raúl here. Listen, er ... **are you doing anything this evening?**

LUCY: Raúl. It's you. Er ... no ... absolutely nothing.

RAUL: Well, **do you feel like going to the cinema?**

LUCY: **Yeah. Great.**

RAUL: **What would you like to see?**

LUCY: I'm not sure. There are quite a few good films on.

RAUL: **Have you seen the new Brad Pitt film?**

LUCY: No, is it good?

RAUL: It's supposed to be. **Do you fancy seeing that?**

LUCY: **Yes, I'd love to. That would be really nice.**

Suggestions

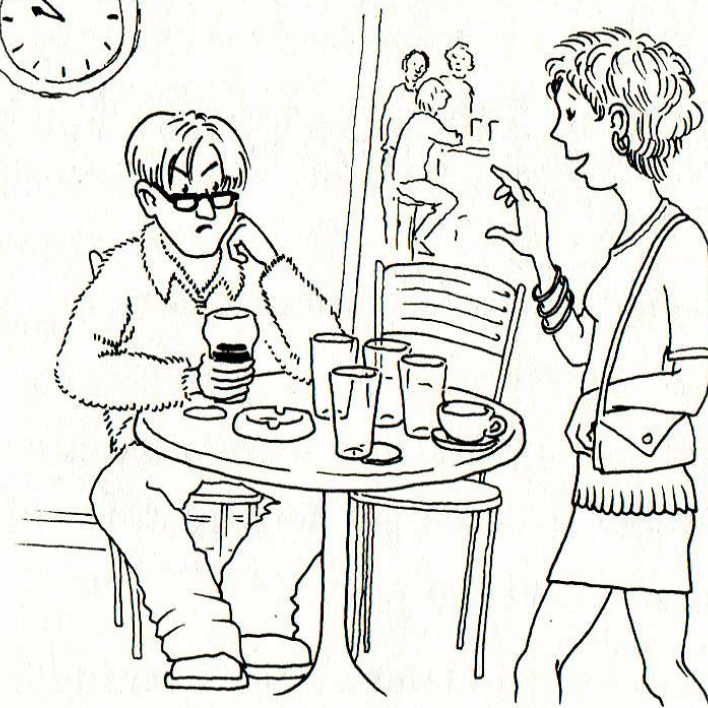
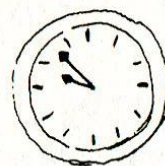
LUCY: **Where shall we meet? Outside the cinema?**

RAUL: Yes, we could, but the film doesn't start till nine. **Why don't we meet a bit earlier and have a drink first?**

LUCY: What time?

RAUL: **What about meeting around eight outside Leicester Square station?**

LUCY: OK. Let's do that.



But you said around eight o'clock, didn't you?



Definite times *Let's meet ...*

at eight (o'clock) at eight sharp at eight on the dot
no earlier/later than eight

Approximate times *Why don't we meet ...*

(at) about eight (at) around eight a bit before eight
sometime around eight at eightish

Final arrangements

RAUL: **So, eight o'clock outside Leicester Square station?**

LUCY: Sounds good. **Have you got a mobile number in case I get held up at work?**

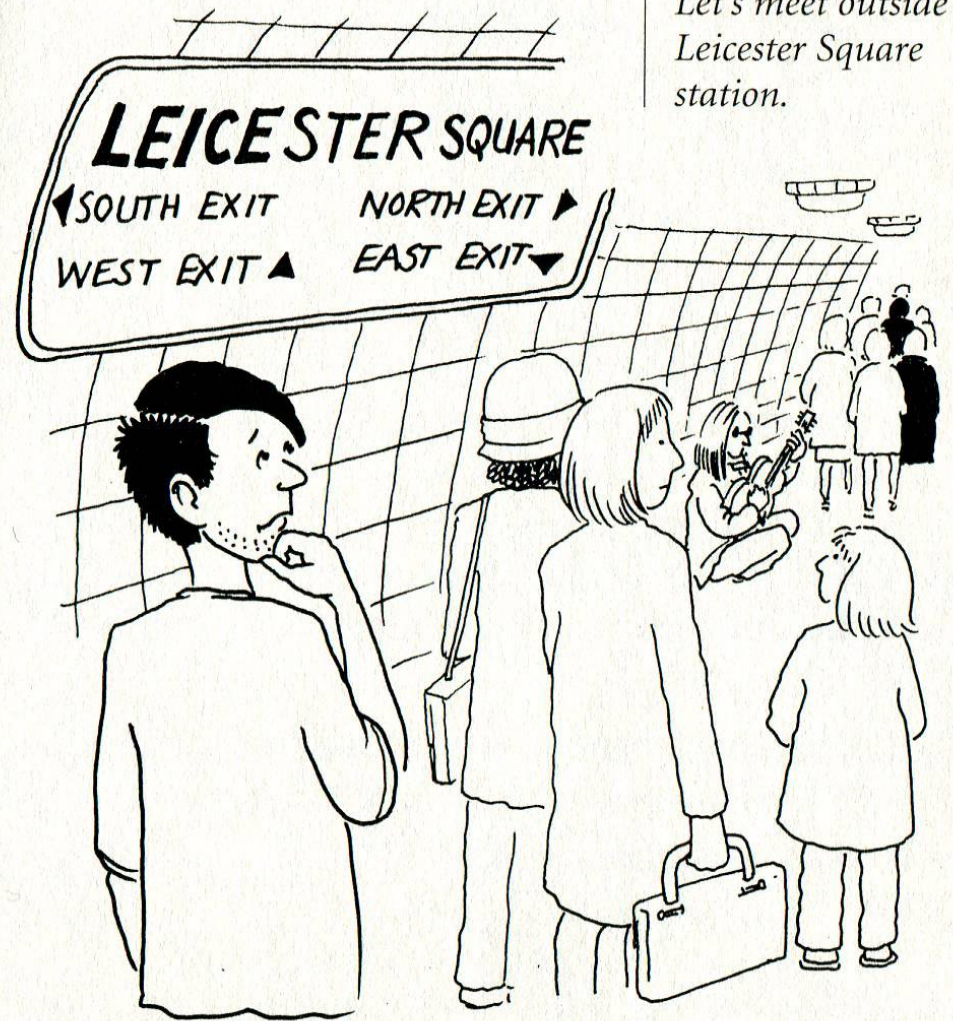
RAUL: Yes, it's 0780 350 1289.

LUCY: Great. **See you later on this evening.**

RAUL: **Yeah, I'm looking forward to it.**

LUCY: Me too. **Bye.**

RAUL: Bye!



Review 6

A Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

- 1 anything this evening?
a) Do you do b) Are you doing c) You do
- 2 Do you feel like for a drink?
a) to go out b) go out c) going out
- 3 What to see?
a) do you like b) would you like c) are you like
- 4 I'm afraid make Friday.
a) I can't b) I'm not able c) it's not possible
- 5 I'm sorry but I'm in going out with you.
a) not interesting b) not interested
c) no interest

B Complete the sentences with the correct verb.

feel fancy shall have don't

- 1 What we have to eat?
- 2 Why we stay in this evening?
- 3 Do you like sending out for a pizza?
- 4 you got a mobile phone?
- 5 Do you getting some fresh air this weekend?



The date

7

Complimenting

RAUL: Hi! **You look great!**

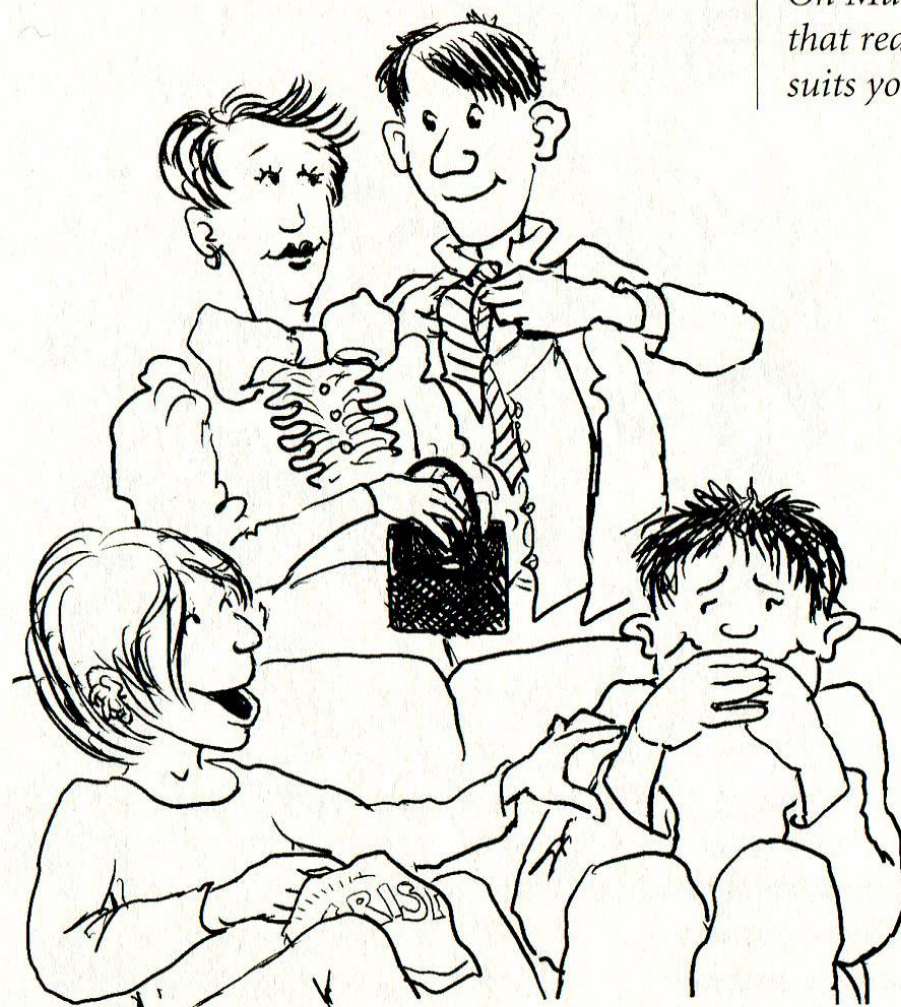
LUCY: Thanks.

RAUL: **I like your jacket.**

LUCY: It's fun, isn't it? My mum thinks it's a bit weird.

RAUL: I don't think so. **That style suits you.**

LUCY: **You've got good taste, Raúl!**



*Oh Mum,
that really
suits you!*

Offering



Popcorn is the most popular snack in cinemas everywhere.

RAUL: I'll queue up and get the tickets.

LUCY: Let me give you some money.

RAUL: No, don't worry. **It's on me.**

LUCY: Thanks.

RAUL: **Would you like to sit in the middle or at the back?**

LUCY: I don't mind. You choose. **Do you fancy some popcorn**, by the way?

RAUL: Yeah, that would be nice.

LUCY: **I'll get us a carton each.**



It's on me Other expressions for offering to pay are:
Let me pay. Allow me. I'll get this. This is my treat.
It's my round (round = when you buy a drink for several people in a pub).

Exchanging opinions

LUCY: **What did you think of the film?**

RAUL: **I thought it was pretty good.**

LUCY: **Yes, I did too.** A bit sentimental, though.

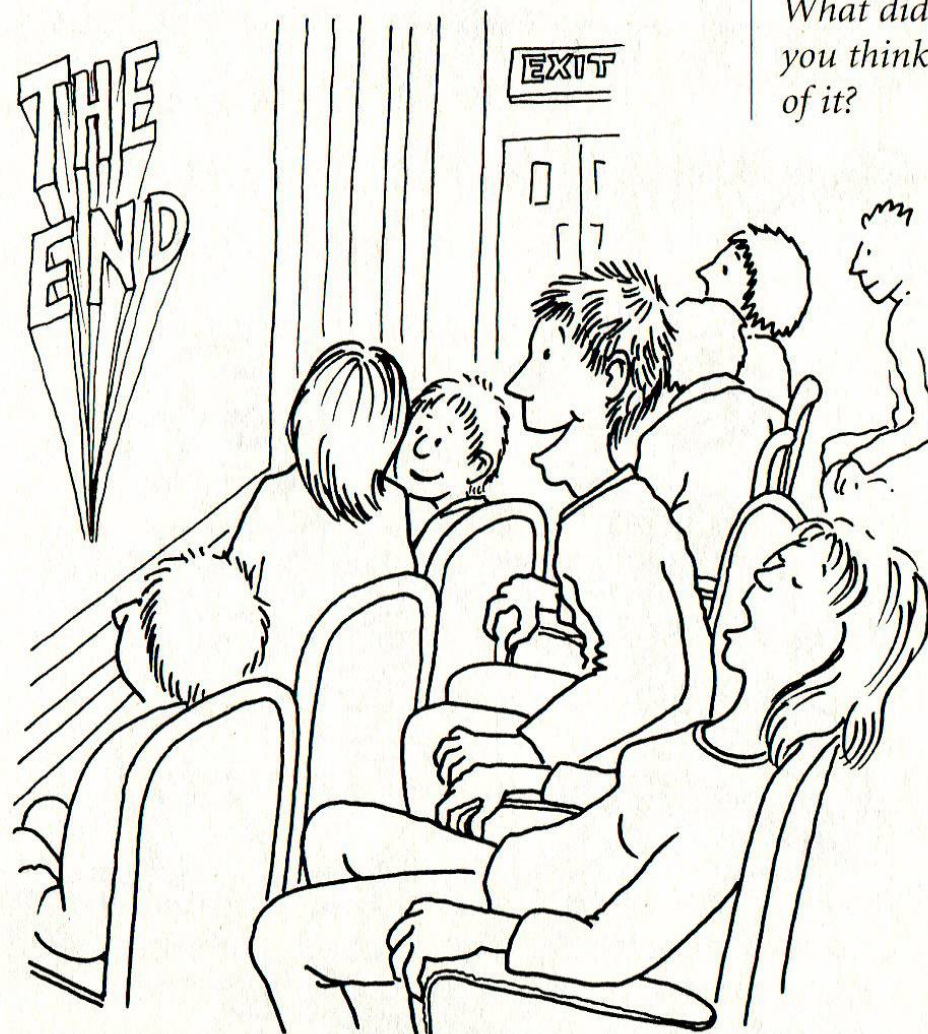
RAUL: **Oh, did you think so?**

LUCY: Mm.

RAUL: I really liked the twist at the end.

LUCY: **Oh come on!** It was a bit obvious.

RAUL: Well, *I* wasn't expecting it ...



What did
you think
of it?

Ending the evening



*It was
good fun!*

RAUL: **Let me see you home.**

LUCY: You don't have to.

RAUL: I know, but I'd like to. **I really enjoyed this evening.**

LUCY: Me too. **It was good fun.**

RAUL: **Can I see you again?**

LUCY: Sure.

RAUL: **What about Friday evening?**

LUCY: The day after tomorrow? Yes, I think I'm free.

RAUL: **OK, I'll pick you up after work.**



See you home means to accompany someone to their home either on foot or by public transport. *It was good fun* means that you enjoyed yourself and had a good time. It doesn't mean that you had a particularly amusing or funny time.

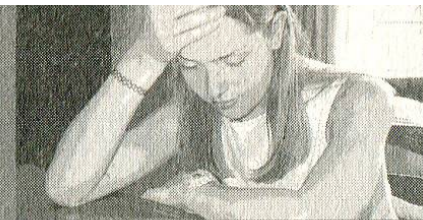
Review 7

A Match 1–7 with a–g.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 I like | a) this evening. |
| 2 I'll get us | b) taste. |
| 3 Can I see | c) your jacket. |
| 4 You look | d) something to eat. |
| 5 That style | e) you again? |
| 6 I really enjoyed | f) great! |
| 7 You've got good | g) suits you. |

B Rearrange the words to make sentences.

- 1 on/this/me/is/meal
- 2 tickets/for/I'll/the/pay
- 3 would/to/like/sit?/where/you
- 4 home/see/let/you/me



Strong feelings

Excitement

EMMA: How was your date with Raúl last night?

LUCY: **It was brilliant.**

EMMA: Really?

LUCY : Yes, **he's really good company** and **he's got these amazing eyes.**

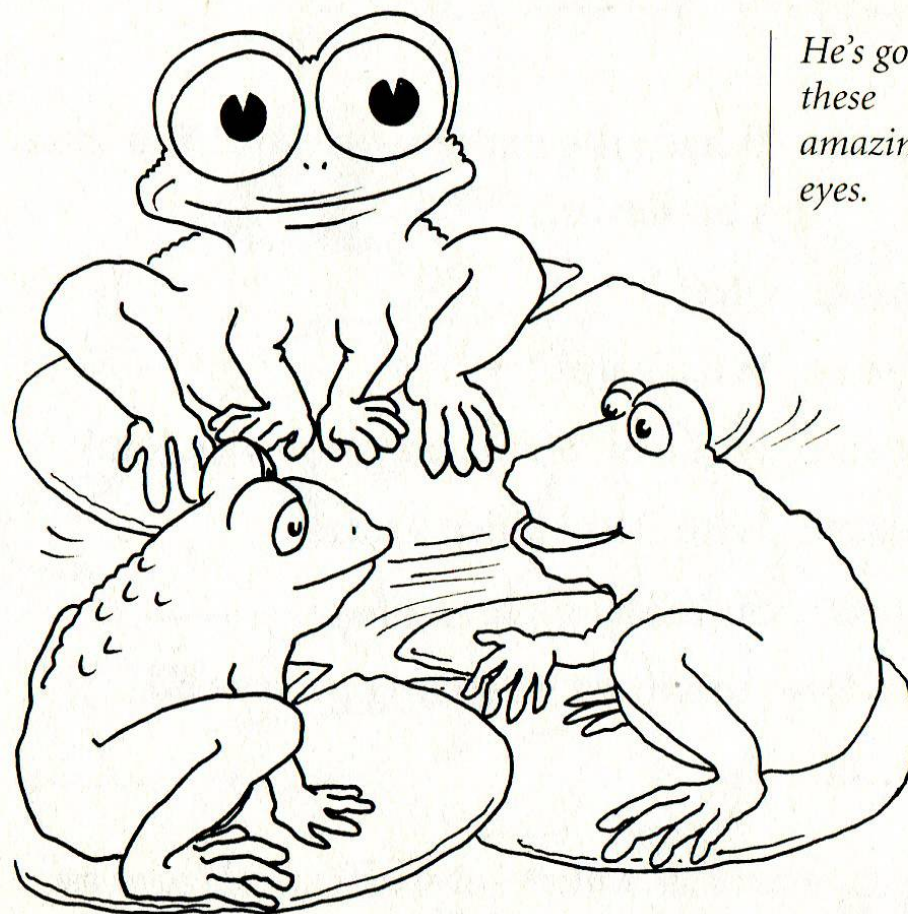
EMMA: When are you seeing him again?

LUCY : Tomorrow. **I can't wait!**

EMMA: I don't think Mark will be pleased.



Brilliant is often used today to mean *very good*. You can also use these words, which are acceptable anywhere: *excellent fantastic amazing superb*. Other words which are more colloquial, and used by young people, are: *cool fab top ace wicked*.



He's got
these
amazing
eyes.

Sympathy

SIMON: **What's the matter with you? You look a bit down.**

MARK: I feel it.

SIMON: **What's up?**

MARK: It's Lucy. She's going out with Raúl.

SIMON: With Raúl! Since when?

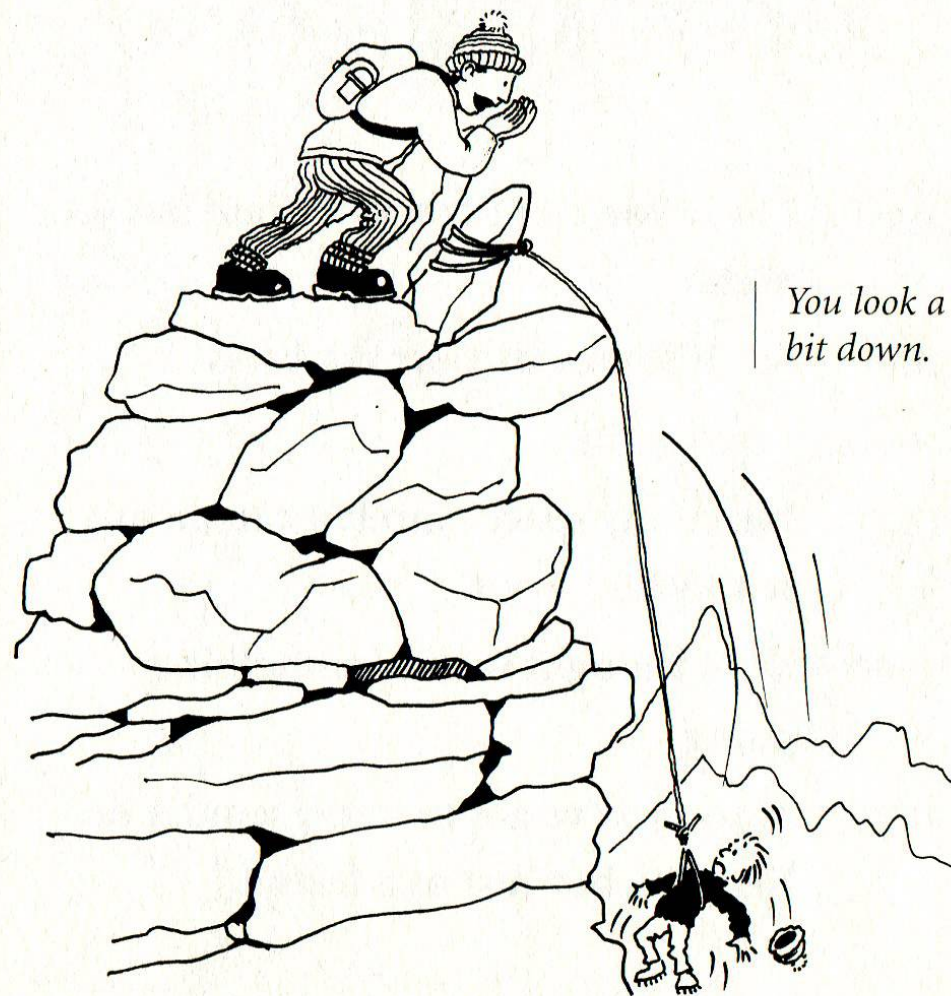
MARK: Since last night.

SIMON: **You must be feeling pretty bad.**

MARK: Yup.



What's the matter? – other common alternatives are:
What's up? What is it? What's wrong? What's the problem?



You look a bit down.

Confrontation

MARK: **I hear you went out with Raúl last night.**

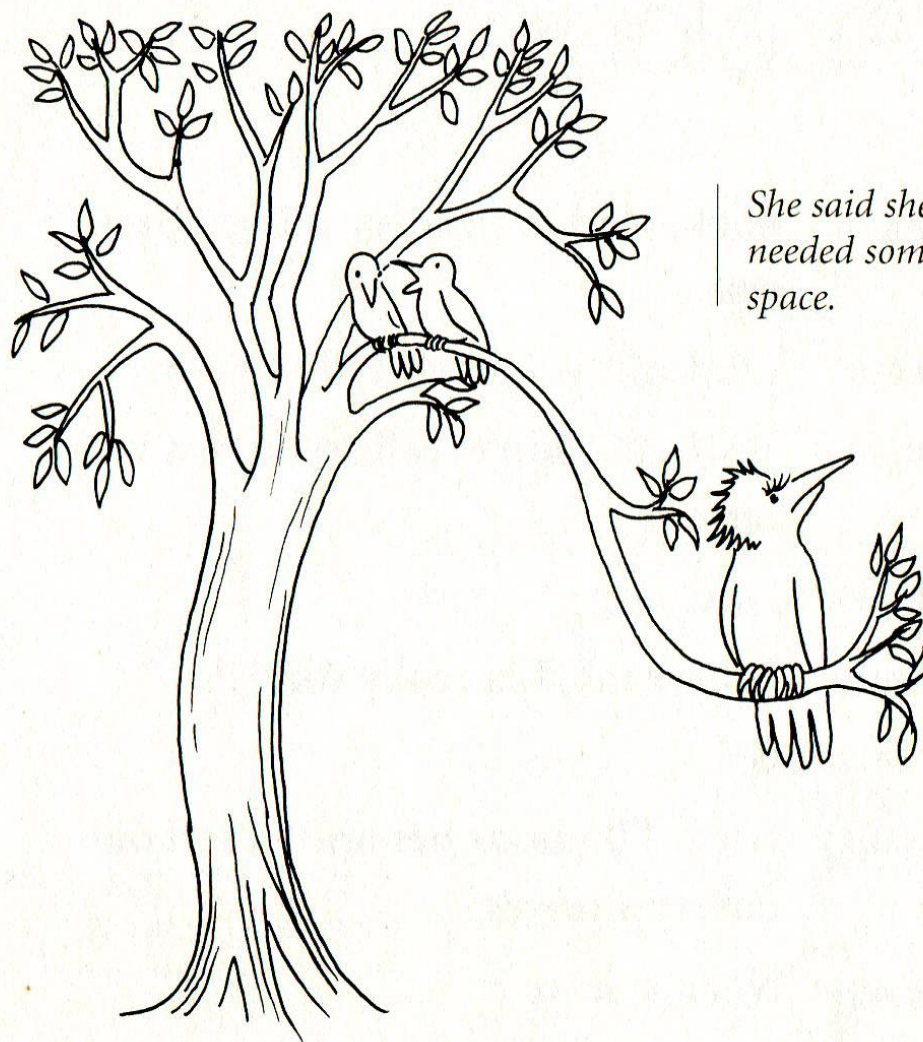
LUCY: **So? It's none of your business.**

MARK: **I realise that.**

LUCY: **I need my space. Surely I can go out with who I want.**

MARK: **But I thought we had something going.**

LUCY: **Mark, you've got to understand. I do like you, but just as a friend.**



*She said she
needed some
space.*

Apology

RAUL: Look, Mark, **I'm sorry if I've upset you.**

MARK: I thought you knew I liked Lucy.

RAUL: Yes, but **I didn't realise you two were serious.**

MARK: I see.

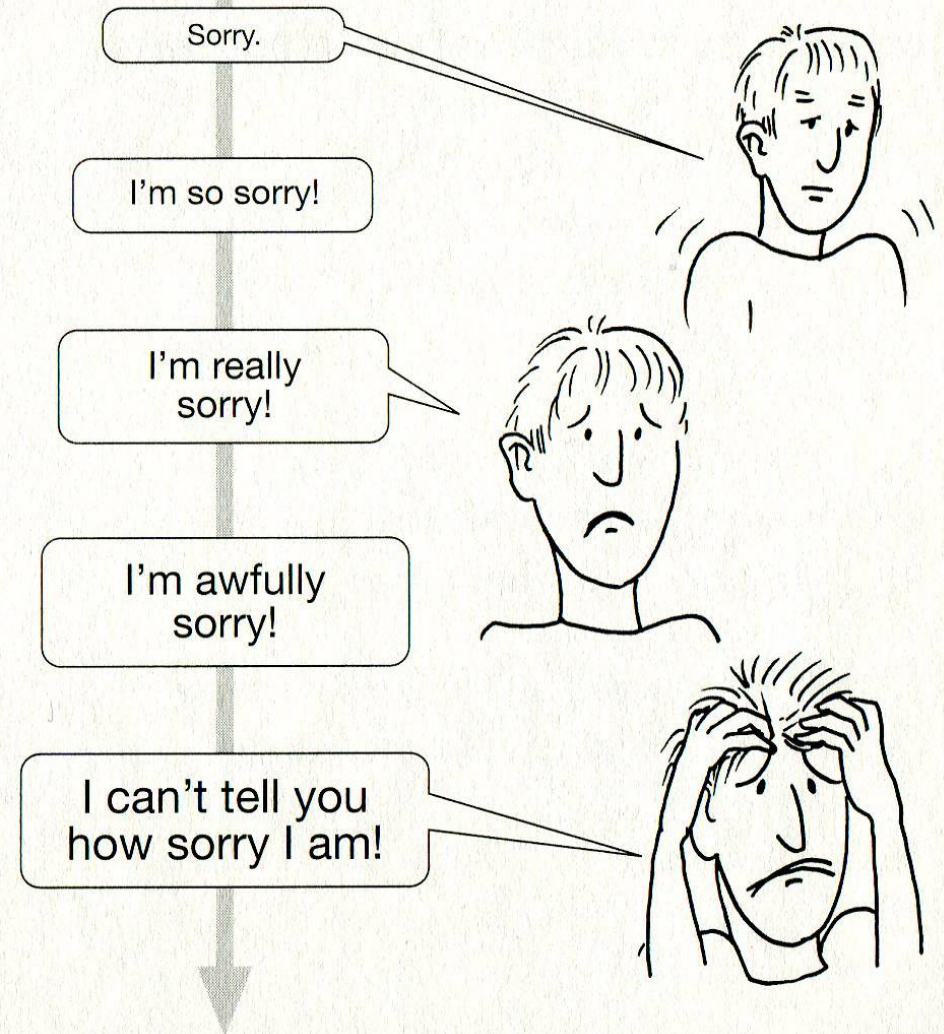
RAUL: Believe me, **I'm really sorry.**

MARK: OK.

RAUL: Look, **I'll phone her and cancel our date tomorrow.**

MARK: No, just leave it.

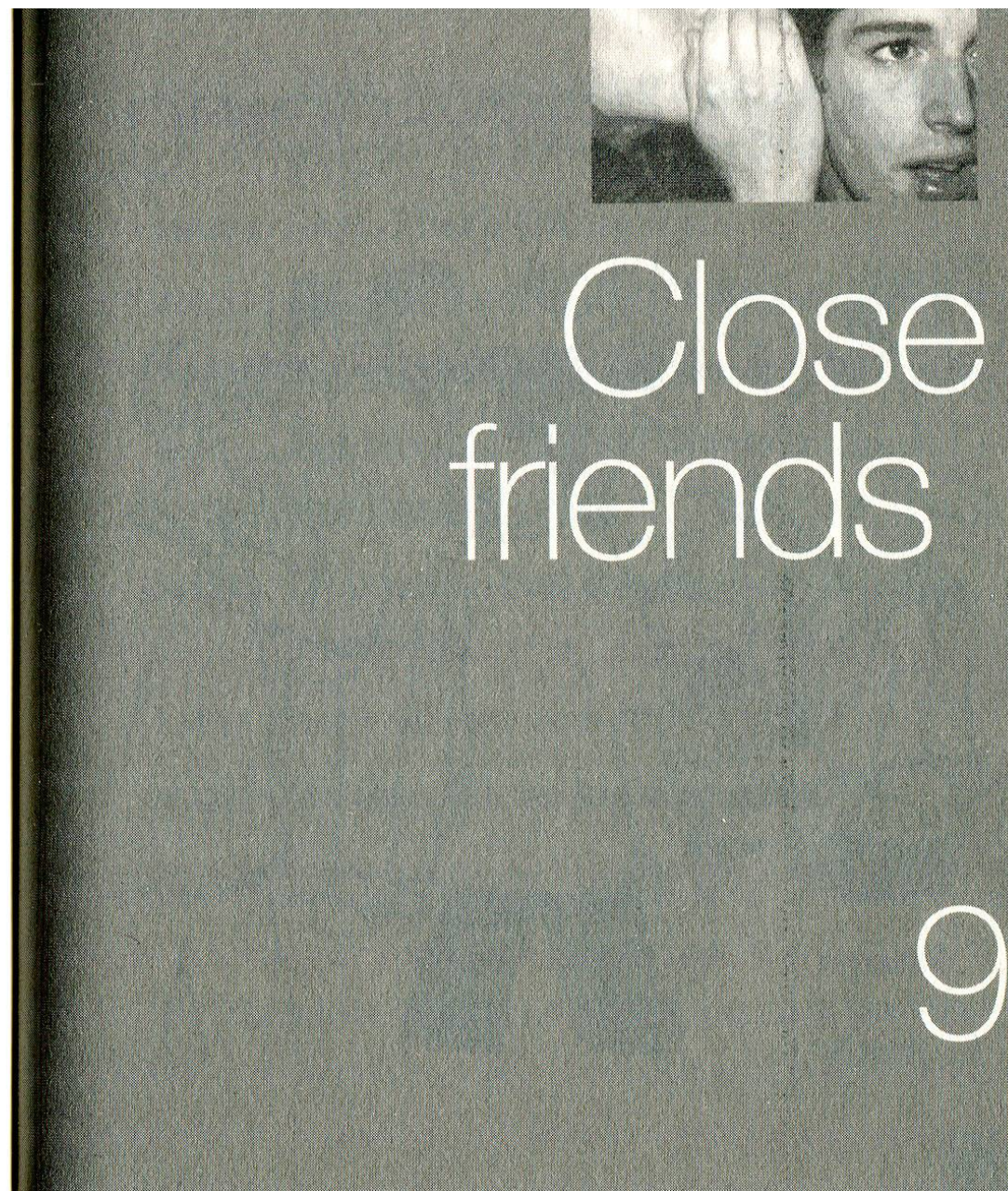
How sorry are you?



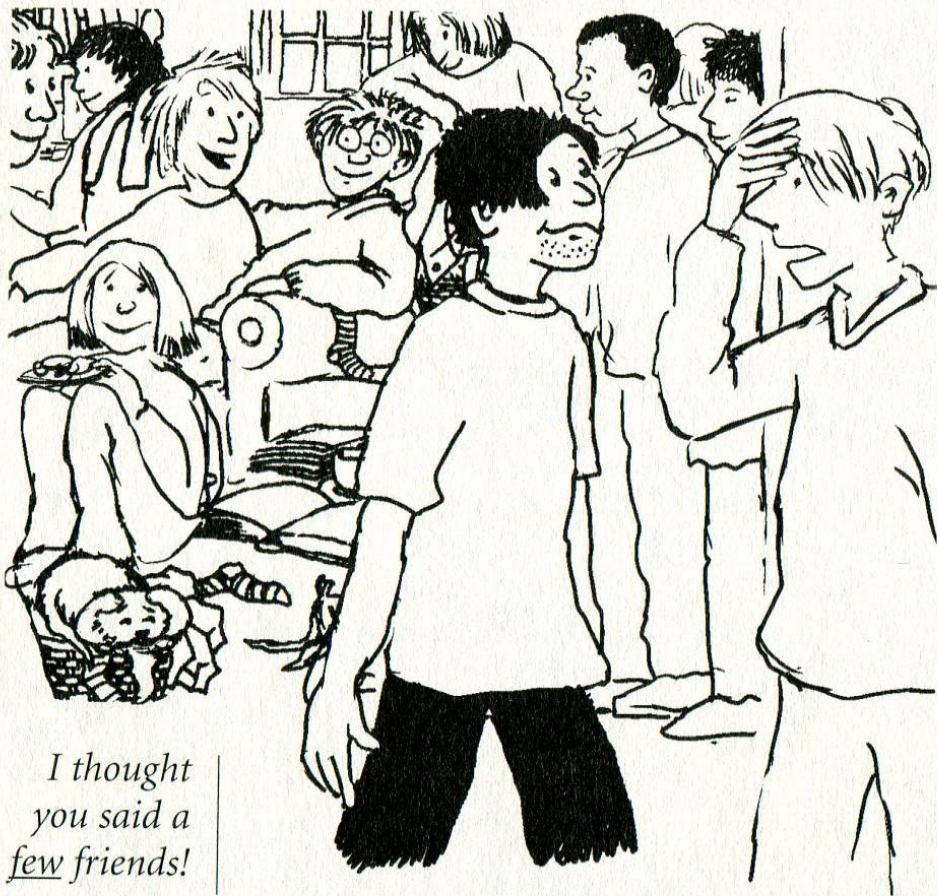
Review 8

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

- 1 He's these amazing eyes!
- 2 You be feeling pretty bad.
- 3 What's matter you?
- 4 It's of your business.
- 5 I thought we something going.
- 6 I like you, but just a friend.
- 7 I hear you went with Kevin on Friday.
- 8 I'm sorry I've upset you.
- 9 I like being with Simon. He's really company.
- 10 I'm so excited. I wait for tomorrow.
- 11 You a bit fed up. Has something happened?
- 12 You sound angry. What's ?



Being easy-going



*I thought
you said a
few friends!*

RAUL: Mark, is it all right if I ask a few friends over for a meal on Friday evening?

MARK: Sure. **That's OK by me.**

RAUL: You don't mind me using the kitchen?

MARK: No, **go ahead. Make yourself at home.**

RAUL: Thanks. Is it OK if I use your glasses and things?

MARK: Of course. **Feel free.** Just don't break anything!

RAUL: Are you sure you don't mind?

MARK: **It's fine. It's no big deal.**

Being encouraging

LUCY: I always get so nervous before auditions.

RAUL: **Don't worry, you'll be fine.**

LUCY: I'm sure I won't be able to sing a note.

RAUL: Yes, you will. **Relax.**

LUCY: Everyone else looks so confident.

RAUL: Forget about them. **Just be yourself.**
They're probably just as nervous as you are.

LUCY: Here we go. It's my turn now.

RAUL: **Calm down and take a deep breath.**
Good luck!



Being honest

EMMA: Do you like my new top?

LUCY: Er ... **yes ... it's OK.**

EMMA: No, come on. Tell me honestly what you think.

LUCY: **I'm not sure it suits you.**

EMMA: Why?

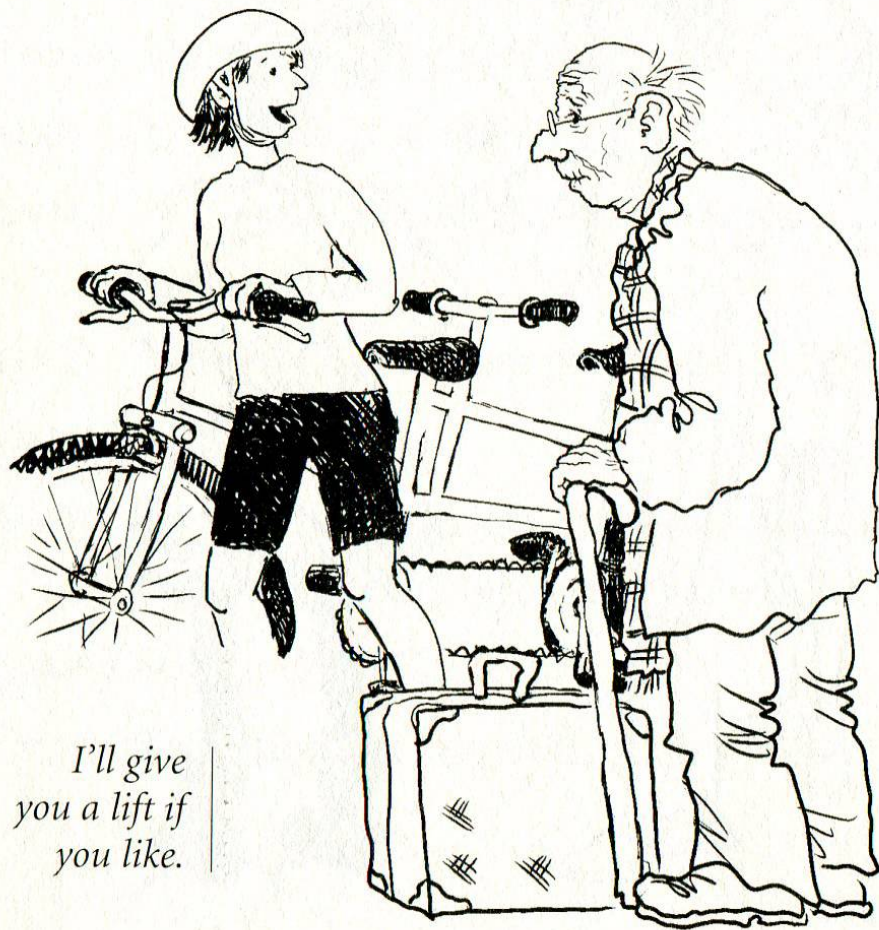
LUCY: **To tell you the truth**, it looks a bit old-fashioned. I think it's the neckline.

EMMA: So you don't like it?

LUCY: **To be honest, I don't think it's you.**



Being helpful



*I'll give
you a lift if
you like.*

MARK: You're leaving on Saturday, aren't you?

RAUL: Yes, unfortunately ... oh no! I've forgotten to collect my ticket.

MARK: **Do you want me to pick it up for you?**

RAUL: That's really nice of you, but I think I have to show my ID.

MARK: **I'll give you a lift if you like.**

RAUL: I haven't got time this morning. I'm going to be late for work as it is.

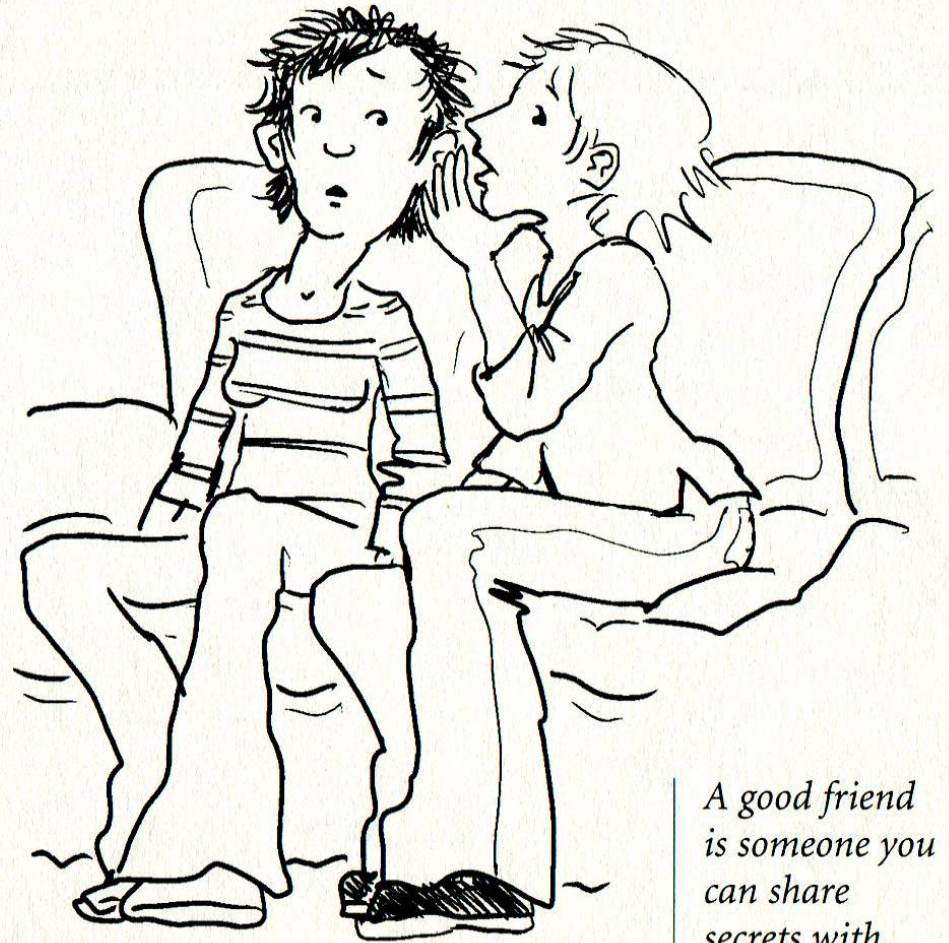
MARK: **Shall I phone your work** and tell them you'll be a few minutes late?

RAUL: Would you? That would be great. I feel really stressed.

A good friend

A good friend is someone who ...

- will help you when you're in trouble.
- will support you at difficult times.
- will give an honest opinion if you want it.
- will tell you if you're wrong.
- accepts you as you are.
- you can depend on.
- you can share secrets with.
- you can be yourself with.



*A good friend
is someone you
can share
secrets with.*

Review 9

A Complete the sentences with the missing words.

- 1 That's OK me.
- 2 Relax. yourself at home.
- 3 A: Can I use the phone? B: Sure. Go!
- 4 A: May I look at your paper? B Of course, free!
- 5 A: I'm so angry with him! B: Calm!
- 6 Take a breath!
- 7 A: I'm leaving now. B: OK. luck!
- 8 To be, I think it's too tight.
- 9 To you the truth, it's not your colour.

B Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

- 1 Do you want make some coffee for you?
a) that I b) that I should c) me to
- 2 I'll pay for it if
a) you will b) you like c) you would like
- 3 I phone and say you'll be late?
a) Shall b) Will c) Am



Time to
leave

10

Last words



*I'm going to
miss you.*

LUCY: I won't come to the airport. **I hate saying goodbye.** It's so hard when there are so many people around.

RAUL: I know what you mean. Here, **I've got a little present for you.**

LUCY: Oh Raúl. It's lovely. Thank you!

RAUL: **I'm going to miss you. Will you write to me?**

LUCY: Of course I will. You'll get tired of all my emails.

RAUL: No I won't. **I'll be thinking of you** all the time.

LUCY: Oh. **I wish you didn't have to go!**

Saying goodbye

RAUL: I'm off now. Mark's taking me to the airport.

EMMA: Oh Raúl, it's so sad that you're leaving!

SIMON: Yes, it won't be the same without you.
We've had some good times.

RAUL: Yes, it's been brilliant.

EMMA: **Don't lose touch**, will you?

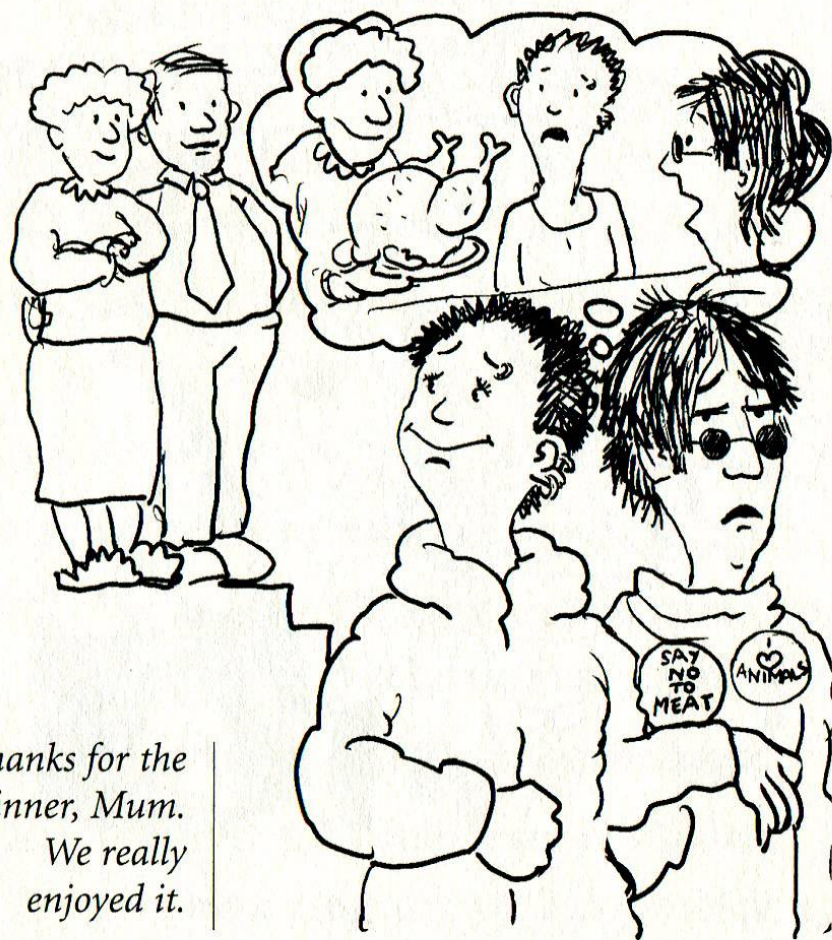
RAUL: No, I won't. **I'll send you an email** now and then and keep you up to date.

SIMON: **Come back and see us again soon.**

RAUL: I will. And **if you're ever in Madrid, give me a ring** and we'll do something.



Saying thank you



*Thanks for the
dinner, Mum.
We really
enjoyed it.*

RAUL: It's time to leave. Thanks for letting me use your spare room, Mark.

MARK: **Don't mention it.**

RAUL: No, I really appreciate it. In fact, **thanks for everything.** You've done so much.

MARK: Really, **it was a pleasure. I enjoyed having you here.**

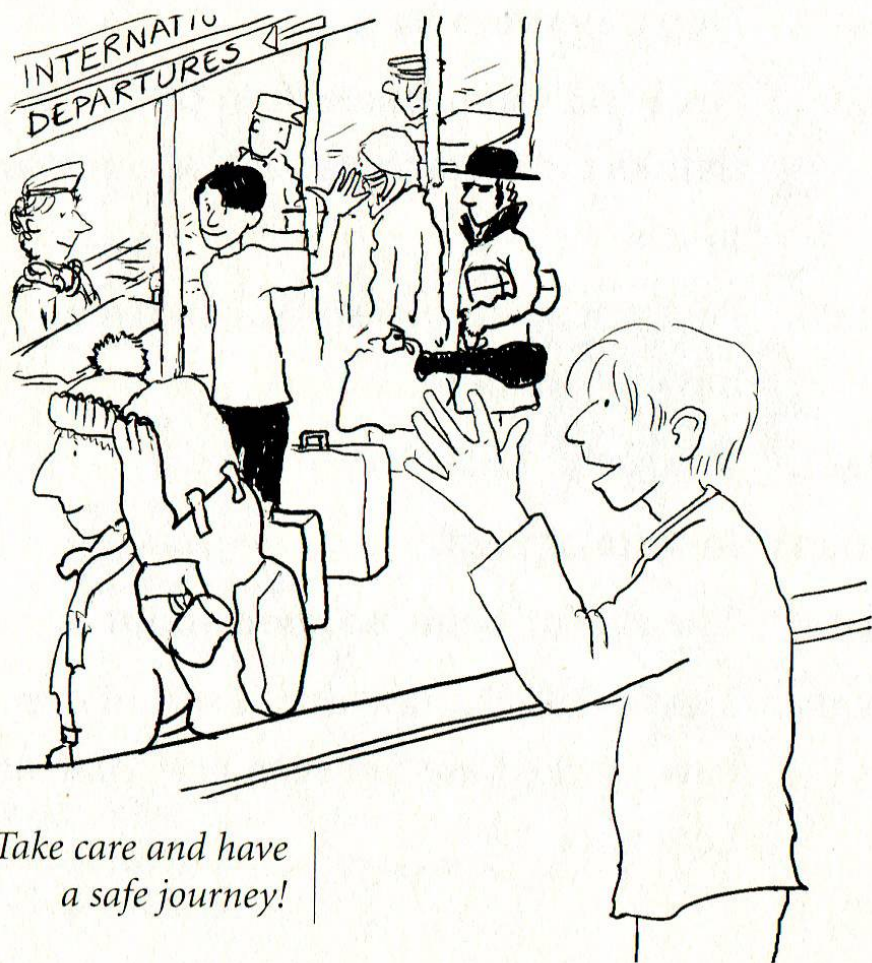
RAUL: In spite of Lucy?

MARK: In spite of Lucy.

RAUL: **Thanks for being so good about it.**

MARK: **That's OK.** I'm not sure it would ever have worked out between us. Come on. Let's go.

Leaving



*Take care and have
a safe journey!*

MARK: **Have you got everything?** Passport?
Boarding card?

RAUL: Yep. It's all here.

MARK: Do you want something to read for the
journey?

RAUL: Don't worry, I've got a book. They're
calling your flight now.

MARK: **Take care and have a safe journey.**

RAUL: Thanks.

MARK: And **don't forget to keep in touch!**

RAUL: I won't. And **thanks again** Mark.
You've been a good friend.

MARK: You too. Bye! Come back again soon.

Goodbye!



There are many ways of saying goodbye. What you say depends on the occasion.

If the person leaving is going on a journey:

Goodbye! Have a safe journey!

Goodbye! Take care!

If the person leaving is moving somewhere or starting a new job:

Goodbye and good luck!

If you are not sure that you will meet again:

Goodbye! I hope we meet again soon. (formal)

Bye! See you again some time.

Bye! Come back soon!

If the situation is informal and you will be meeting again soon:

Bye! See you!

Bye! See you tomorrow/on Friday/next week.

Bye for now!

Cheers! (often between men)

Review 10

A Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

- 1 I enjoyed it. = It w.... a p....
- 2 It's not important. = D.... m.... it.
- 3 Thanks for all you've done. = T.... for e....
- 4 Don't forget to write. = Don't l.... t....
- 5 If you come to Madrid at all. = If you a.... e.... in Madrid.
- 6 Telephone me. = G.... me a r....

B Match 1–6 with a–f.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Thanks for | a) be thinking of you. |
| 2 It's so sad that | b) see us again soon. |
| 3 Come back and | c) brilliant. |
| 4 I hate saying | d) you're leaving. |
| 5 It's been | e) letting me stay. |
| 6 I'll | f) goodbye. |

A final word . . .

How did you get on? No doubt some parts seemed easy and other parts were new. If you look at the Index on the next few pages, you will find a list of all the useful expressions which were written in bold type in the conversations. At first it may seem like a lot to remember, but a good way of learning them is to write down what each expression means in your own language. Then you can ask a friend to test you by reading aloud the expressions in your language and seeing if you can remember them in English. Anyway, I hope that this book will help you to make some new friends while you're in Britain. Enjoy your stay!

Index

Write these sentences in your own language

1 Arrival

YOUR JOURNEY

Have you been waiting long?

How was the flight?

Good journey?

Did you get any food on the flight?

YOUR VISIT

Is this your first time in London?

How long are you staying here?

Are you working here or are you on holiday?

Where are you staying?

YOUR ENGLISH

Where did you learn your English?

How long have you studied it?

Do you want people to correct you?

Are you going to English classes while you're here?

YOUR COUNTRY

Where do you come from in Spain?

Where's that in relation to Madrid?

What's Segovia like? Is it famous for anything?

When did you move to Madrid?

2 Have you met ...?

INTRODUCING YOURSELF

Hello. I don't think we've met.

I'm Raúl, Mark's friend from Spain.

Hi! My name's Lucy. I'm a friend of Mark's from work.

I'm Simon, Mark's flatmate.

INTRODUCING FRIENDS

Have you met Lucy?

Meet Sam.

Sam, this is Raúl.

Do you know Emma, Mark's sister?

Emma ... Raúl.

FORMAL INTRODUCTIONS

Let me introduce you.

Sue, this is Tom Brooks, from IBC Rome.

How do you do.

Pleased to meet you.

HANDLING UNUSUAL NAMES

Sorry, what's your name again?

Can you say it once again?

It's short for Deirdre.

How do you spell that?

3 Hello stranger!

IN A CAFÉ

Excuse me, is this seat free?

Do you think you could pass the sugar?

What's the food like here?

Are there any other good places to eat round here?

ON A PLANE

It looks very dull, doesn't it?

Are you going to London on business or is it a holiday?

What sort of work do you do?

Can you tell me ... what's the best way of getting to the centre of London from the airport?

AT A BUS STOP

Does the number 9 stop here?

Does it go as far as Marble Arch?

Have you been here long?

Could you tell me when we get to Marble Arch?

IN A PUB OR BAR

Busy, isn't it?

Do they sell food in here?

Is this your local?

Can I buy you a drink?

Do you live round here?

4 The art of conversation

OPEN QUESTIONS

What sort of pizza do you prefer?

How do you get to work?

Where did you buy your jacket?

Tell me how you met Mark.

SHOWING INTEREST

Really?

How awful!

That's interesting!

CHECKING

Right?

Yeah?

OK?

Do you know what I mean?

EXPANDING YOUR ANSWER

Yes, I've always liked modern jazz.

Yes, I've got a flat at the top end of North Street.

No, thanks. I've had more than enough already.

No, nobody's phoned all evening.

TELLING JOKES AND STORIES

Do you want to hear a joke?

Have you heard the one about ...

That reminds me of another one.

5 Party time

GREAT PARTY!

Great party!

I like this music.

This food is excellent.

They're really good!

WHO KNOWS WHO?

Do you know everybody here?

How do you know Sam?

How long have you known him?

Who else do you know here?

DANCING

Shall we go and dance?

Dance with me!

I'm hopeless at dancing.

Do you feel like dancing?

LEAVING THE PARTY

What time is the last tube?

Are there any night buses?

Do you mind if I use your phone to call a taxi?

I'm afraid I've got to go.

Can I take your number?

Great. I'll give you a ring sometime.

SAYING THANK YOU

Thanks for a great party.

We had a really good time.

See you soon.

6 The invitation

INVITING AND REFUSING

Do you feel like going out this evening?

I'm afraid I can't.

I'm busy.

What about Saturday night?

Sorry, Saturday night's no good.

Next week is difficult.

Sorry, but I'm just not interested.

INVITING AND ACCEPTING

Are you doing anything this evening?

Do you feel like going to the cinema?

Yeah. Great.

What would you like to see?

Have you seen the new Brad Pitt film?

Do you fancy seeing that?

Yes, I'd love to.

That would be really nice.

SUGGESTIONS

Where shall we meet? Outside the cinema?

Why don't we meet a bit earlier and have a drink first?

What about meeting around eight outside Leicester Square station?

Let's do that.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

So, eight o'clock outside Leicester Square station?

Have you got a mobile number in case I get held up at work?

See you later on this evening.

Yeah, I'm looking forward to it.

Bye.

7 The date**COMPLIMENTING**

You look great!

I like your jacket.

That style suits you.

You've got good taste!

OFFERING

I'll queue up and get the tickets.

Let me give you some money.

It's on me.

Would you like to sit in the middle or at the back?

Do you fancy some popcorn?

I'll get us a carton each.

Let me pay.

Allow me.

I'll get this.

This is my treat.

It's my round.

EXCHANGING OPINIONS

What did you think of the film?

I thought it was pretty good.

Yes, I did too.

Oh, did you think so?

Oh come on!

ENDING THE EVENING

Let me see you home.

I really enjoyed this evening.

It was good fun.

Can I see you again?

What about Friday evening?

I'll pick you up after work.

8 Strong feelings

EXCITEMENT

It was brilliant.

He's really good company.

He's got these amazing eyes.

I can't wait!

SYMPATHY

What's the matter with you?

You look a bit down.

What's up?

You must be feeling pretty bad.

What's the matter?

What is it?

What's wrong?

What's the problem?

CONFRONTATION

I hear you went out with Raúl last night.

It's none of your business.

I need my space. Surely I can go out with who I want.

I thought we had something going.

I do like you, but just as a friend.

APOLOGY

I'm sorry if I've upset you.

I didn't realise you two were serious.

I'm really sorry.

I'll phone her and cancel our date tomorrow.

Sorry.

I'm so sorry!

I'm really sorry!

I'm awfully sorry!

I can't tell you how sorry I am!

9 Close friends**BEING EASY-GOING**

That's OK by me.

Go ahead.

Make yourself at home.

Feel free.

It's fine. It's no big deal.

BEING ENCOURAGING

Don't worry, you'll be fine.

Relax.

Just be yourself.

Calm down and take a deep breath.

Good luck.

BEING HONEST

Yes ... it's OK.

I'm not sure it suits you.

To tell you the truth ...

To be honest, I don't think it's you.

BEING HELPFUL

Do you want me to pick it up for you?

I'll give you a lift if you like.

Shall I phone your work?

10 Time to leave

LAST WORDS

I hate saying goodbye.

I've got a little present for you.

I'm going to miss you.

Will you write to me?

I'll be thinking of you.

I wish you didn't have to go!

SAYING GOODBYE

It's so sad that you're leaving!

It won't be the same without you.

We've had some good times.

It's been brilliant.

Don't lose touch.

I'll send you an email.

Come back and see us again soon.

If you're ever in Madrid, give me a ring.

SAYING THANK YOU

Don't mention it.

Thanks for everything.

It was a pleasure. I enjoyed having you here.

Thanks for being so good about it.

That's OK.

LEAVING

Have you got everything?

Take care.

Have a safe journey.

Don't forget to keep in touch!

Thanks again.

You've been a good friend.

GOODBYE!

Goodbye and good luck!

I hope we meet again soon.

See you again some time.

Come back soon!

See you!

See you next week.

Bye for now!

Cheers!

Answers

Review 1

- A 1b 2b 3b 4b 5a
B 1 Have you been waiting long?
2 Where do you come from (in Spain)?
3 How long have you been learning English?

Review 2

- A 1c 2a 3c 4b 5b
B 1T 2F 3F

Review 3

- 1b 2c 3a 4c 5b 6a 7b 8c

Review 4

- A 1 How often 2 Why 3 What 4 How many
5 When 6 Where 7 Who
B 1c 2d 3b 4a

Review 5

- A 1 How 2 How long 3 Shall 4 like 5 at
B 1 - 8 - 3 - 5 - 2 - 7 - 4 - 6

Review 6

- A 1b 2c 3b 4a 5b
B 1 shall 2 don't 3 feel 4 Have 5 fancy

Review 7

- A 1c 2d 3e 4f 5g 6a 7b
B 1 This meal is on me. 2 I'll pay for the tickets.
3 Where would you like to sit?
4 Let me see you home.

Review 8

- 1 got 2 must 3 the/with 4 none 5 had 6 as
7 out 8 if 9 good 10 can't 11 look 12 up

Review 9

- A 1 by 2 Make 3 ahead 4 feel 5 down 6 deep
7 Good 8 honest 9 tell
B 1c 2b 3a

Review 10

- A 1 It was a pleasure. 2 Don't mention it.
3 Thanks for everything. 4 Don't lose touch.
5 If you are ever in Madrid. 6 Give me a ring.
B 1e 2d 3b 4f 5c 6a

