Warm up

A Look at the pictures and make a list of the places where you meet new people.

B Work in pairs. Read the instruction below and do the activity with your partner.

Compare your list in exercise A with your partner. Are they the same? Rank your list in order of the best and worst places to meet new people. Try to agree on your ranking. Compare your list with the rest of the class.

Reading

Vocabulary personality adjectives

A Match the words 1-6 with the near synonyms e-f.

1 enthusiastic  a convincing / influential
2 mistrustful     b uncomplicated / simple
3 persuasive     c unconcerned / uncaring
4 indifferent    d keen / eager
5 straightforward e intolerant / narrow-minded
6 prejudiced     f suspicious / uncertain

B Match one of the words 1-6 above with the people below.

1 “Let me be completely honest with you and tell you exactly what I think.”
2 “I had a bad experience last time I was in hospital, so as you can imagine, I don’t really like doctors.”
3 “We don’t usually employ people over the age of thirty. We prefer older, more experienced employees.”
4 “Yes, going bowling for your birthday is a great idea! I’ll definitely be there.”
5 “I didn’t vote in the last election. I’m not interested in politics.”
6 “Oh, come on! Come with us. You’ll have a lovely time and make some new friends!”

A Work in pairs and discuss the following questions with a partner.

1 Do you find it easy to make new friends? Why / why not?
2 What advice would you give to someone who wants to make new friends?

B Work in pairs. Read the instruction below and do the activity with your partner.

You’re going to read an article with tips on how to make new friends. The following are the headings of each paragraph of the article. What do you think the paragraphs will be about?

a Don’t judge  b Friends of friends
  c Be a real friend  d Get out and about  e Find things out
  f Keep in Touch  g Social media

C Now read the article and match the paragraph headings a-g to the paragraphs 1-7.

Do you find it difficult to meet new people? Read these great tips to help expand your social circle.

1 __________________

How many friends do you have? You probably know more people than you realize. Get to know your acquaintances better. When a friend asks you to hang out with them and their friends, do it! You are likely to form cool new relationships by getting together with people you don’t know well...yet.
It's definitely not a good idea to spend time on Facebook when you’re with your friends, but the Internet can be a fantastic way to socialize. Look for local groups that plan meet-ups and activities. For example, CitySocializer and Eventbrite are fun organizations that you can join and get to know enthusiastic people you have lots in common with.

Be open-minded! People can be prejudiced when they meet new people. If you think you won’t like someone, then you probably won’t. Try a different attitude and open yourself up to different opportunities. Who knows what might happen? You could make a friend for life.

When a stranger meets you, of course, they want to get to know you. However, you should ask plenty of questions as well as talk about yourself. This shows that you are friendly and want to connect. You will learn a lot about your new friend and it will help them open up to you.

If you stay at home all of the time, you certainly won’t meet anyone new. It is difficult to make that first step, but lots of people are in a similar position. Join a club, take a course or do some volunteering!

Who helps you when you’re feeling down? If you want a true friendship, you should be there in good times and bad. When a friend is having a tough time, you can’t be indifferent. Listen and think of ways you can cheer them up.

Despite social media, it is easy to lose contact with people. Don’t let that happen. It doesn’t have to be every day, but do communicate regularly. Remember that person you haven’t spoken to for ages? Reach out and send them a message. They will be happy to hear from you.

Read the sentences below and mark them as true (T) or false (F).

1. It’s is likely that you have more friends than you think.  (F)
2. Social media is actually not a good tool for making new friends.  (T)
3. If you don’t like somebody the first time you meet them, you will not have a long-term friendship.  (T)
4. It’s important to show that you are interested in someone when you first meet.  (T)
5. Try to distract your friends and make them laugh when they are having problems.  (T)
6. You should make more effort to contact the friends you already have.  (F)

A 🎧 You are going to listen to three conversations between people who have recently met each other. Look at the images and discuss the following questions.

1. What is happening?
2. What do you expect to hear in the conversations?
3. a crowd at sports match  b sales assistants in shoe shop  c group playing soccer  d group watching band

B Listen to the conversations and match them to the images a-d. One of them is not needed.

C Read the sentences below and correct the factual errors.

1. Neither Holly nor Nola have been to a ‘meet-up’ event before.
2. Nola came to the venue with another friend.
3. Mario plays soccer regularly.
4. The next match is next Sunday.
5. It is Lucy and Tom’s first day in their new job.
6. Maria is a co-worker.

D Listen to the conversation 1 again and find the 8 missing words.

Holly: Excuse me, Hi, I’m Holly. I don’t think we’ve met, have we?
Nola: Hi, no. This is the first time I’ve been to one of these events by myself. I’m Nola, by the way.
Holly: Nice to meet you. I thought I hadn’t seen you. I’ve been to a few of them. They are always really good fun. Everyone is really friendly and I have got to know a few people already.
Nola: That sounds great. I was a bit nervous about coming in. I’ve been to this venue before but I don’t know a single person here! Who organizes these get-togethers?
Holly: Marcus…where is he…? He’s over there. Come on, let’s go over and I’ll introduce you before the band starts and it’s too noisy.
Nola: Ok, thanks.
**grammar**  object / subject questions

A Are the following sentences subject or object questions? Write S for subject and O for object.

1 Who broke this glass?
2 What happened at the end of the book?
3 What does your father do?
4 Who is your best friend?
5 When did you start this school?

B Correct the errors in these questions.

1 What you said?
2 Why you did call me?
3 Who did call my name?
4 Which school you went to?

C Make questions from the following answers.

1 Luis sat there. _________________________________?
2 She told me you met at a party. _______________?
3 Richard wants to get to know you. ________________?
4 I dropped my phone. __________________________?

D Work with a partner and do the activity below.

Student A turn to page 132, Student B turn to page 135. Make quiz questions from facts to quiz your partner. Add two more questions of your own.

**speaking**

A Work in groups of three and discuss the following questions.

1 What do you usually ask people / say about yourself when you meet for the first time?
2 Can you think of any specific English phrases you use to introduce yourself and other people?

B Read the conversation on page 132 and decide where the meeting is taking place and underline any useful phrases.

C Student A, turn to page 132 and read Role Card 1. Student B, turn to page 135 and read Role Card 2. Student C, turn to page 136 and read Role Card 3.

When you have read your role cards, Student A can start the conversation. Use the useful phrases listed below.

Useful phrases.
- I don’t think we’ve met before, have we?
- I’m … by the way / My name is … (by the way)
- Nice to meet you.
- I thought I hadn’t seen you around
- How do you know…?
- You should come along
- Thanks for inviting me
- What do you do?

**writing**

A Read the email on page 138 from your pen-pal, Jamie and answer the following questions.

1 How did you meet Jamie?
2 Where does Jamie live?
3 What are his / her favorite subjects in school?
4 What does he / she like to do in their spare time?

B Write back to Jamie. Include the following information.

a Tell Jamie about your family, house, school and best friend.
b Answer any questions that he / she asks you.
c Don’t forget to open the email with the greeting ‘Dear / Hi Jamie’ and a friendly question such as ‘How are you?’ ‘I hope you’re well.’ ‘Thank you for your last email.’ etc.
d Don’t forget to end your email with a friendly phrase such as ‘I’m looking forward to hearing from you.’ ‘Write back soon.’ etc. and finish off with ‘Best wishes’ and your name.