



Welcome to the party!

- **Introduction lesson/s** - the lesson plan is divided into two parts as there is probably enough material here to make 2 lessons
- **For: Small groups aged 18+** (but could be adapted for teenagers)
- **Level: Pre-Intermediate and above**
- **Activities:** Speaking + Listening
- **Grammar:** Questions, Modal verbs, Future form: *be going to*
- **Vocabulary:** Introducing yourself, small talk, networking, suggestions, offers & responses

PART ONE

Introduction

What are the ingredients for a great party? (e.g. guests, food, drink, venue, music etc.)

Have you experienced celebrations in different countries/cultures?

Brainstorm different kinds of parties are there (e.g. birthday, weddings, funerals, leaving a job, office party, networking events, reunion, spontaneous...)

Networking – Vocabulary & asking questions

Discuss formal parties e.g. networking events, launches etc.

Revise some vocabulary on greetings/introductions and question forms

- Introducing yourself and others – formal and informal language
- Asking questions (present tense question forms & revise question words)
- Small talk – discuss appropriate/inappropriate subjects according to situation

Optional Listening - networking

Market Leader Elementary pages 6-7 Tracks 1.1 to 1.4 **or** *Market Leader Pre-Intermediate* pages 56-57

Roleplay 1 – students are given a new fictional identity using cards below. In groups of 3 or 4 they greet, introduce each other and ask questions to find out information.

Encourage them to make up extra details as they go along in order to make the conversations more interesting.

Discussion Questions

Do you like organizing parties? Have you had any good/bad experiences you'd like to share of parties you have organized?

Do you prefer big or small parties?

Surprise parties – good or bad idea?

What was the last party you went to? Was it good?

Listening

Breaking News – Mexican man invites 1.3 million guests to his daughter's 15th birthday party.

Listening comprehension exercises: <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161209-birthday-party.html>



PART TWO

Discussion

What makes a good party? Students brainstorm ideas and create a list of party elements (venue, food, drinks, entertainment etc.)

Party Planning

Brainstorm vocabulary:

- Suggestions – could, should, let's etc.
- Offering – can, could and future simple 'will'

Give out Vocabulary sheet below for students to use during roleplay

Roleplay 2 For groups of 4. The students are given information about Anna, the person whose party it is they are organizing. It's a surprise for her 50th birthday – so the event/s could take place over a whole day. Anna's husband has done a 'whip round' of friends and family so there's a healthy budget. They also each have a list of their own ideas to suggest. Some negotiating may be required. Each student must also offer to take on a role of organizing something, e.g. reserving a restaurant... The husband is the chairman of the meeting.

Once plans are finalized the students then need to explain what is going to happen – practicing future form 'be going to' for plans each explaining the part they are organizing.

Optional writing exercises students each write an invitation for the party. Or write a blog post after the party to describe it.

Game: Call my Bluff

Each student writes down 3 sentences describing 3 things they did or witnessed at a party they attended.

Two of the sentences should be false and one should be true.

In turn they read out their three sentences.

The other students then vote for which sentence they believe is the true one.

If they guess correctly, they get 1 point if they guess wrong, the student reading their sentences gets 2 points.



Roleplay 1: Networking

<p>You're Ginny, a Canadian crime fiction writer. You're 36 and you live in Vancouver. You're single. You like drawing and travelling.</p>	<p>You're Michelle. You're a Scottish lawyer. You're 50 years old. You're from Glasgow but now you live in Washington, D.C. You're married and you have 2 children. You like reading and history.</p>	<p>You're Marie, an American studying to be an actress. You're 21 and you're from Nashville, Tennessee. You're single. You like fashion magazines and partying.</p>
<p>You're Daniel, an English chef. You're 39, single and you live and work in Leeds. You like cricket and collecting antiques.</p>	<p>You're Monica, a German environmental activist. You're 60 and you live in Berlin. You're married. You like photography and climbing mountains.</p>	<p>You're Manuel. You're French and Spanish. You're 52 and you're married. You work in logistics and you live in Paris. You love cars and football.</p>
<p>You're Akira. You're a Japanese tattoo artist. You're 48 and you live in Tokyo. You're single. You like hiking and cinema.</p>	<p>You're Jennifer, an Australian fashion photographer. You're married. You're 44 and you live in Rome. You like travelling and reading.</p>	<p>You're Pascal, a French basketball player. You're recently married. You're 32 and you live in Toulouse. You like fast cars and water sports.</p>
<p>You're Paolo, a retired Italian financial adviser. You're 78 and you live in Milan. You're divorced with many grandchildren. You like films and good wine.</p>	<p>You're Isabel, an Argentinian farmer. You're 37, married and you have 2 sons. You live on a ranch north of Buenos Aires. You love cooking and horse riding.</p>	<p>You're Derek, a Jamaican retired teacher and writer. You're 84 and you live in England. You have 2 children and 5 grandchildren. You like poetry and theatre.</p>



Roleplay 2: The Surprise Party

You are going to plan a surprise party for your friend Anna who is going to be 50 in July. The event will take place on a Saturday, it can involve more than one event, depending on the budget of course!

You're having a meeting to decide on all the details of the party.

These are the main points you need to decide on and one of you needs to volunteer to organise at least one of the following:

- Venue – where to hold the party. Could be more than one venue
- Food and drink – idea for a cake
- Entertainment – music, activities, places to visit etc.
- Theme – should the party have theme – clothing,
- Guests – who should be invited

On your role cards below are some ideas of what you might suggest and why.

Use the vocabulary to help make suggestions and offer help.

Student A – you are Anna's husband. You are in charge of the budget, which after a group of friends and family contributed comes to 700 euros. This surprise party was your idea so your role is as the chairman of this planning meeting. You will listen to the ideas of your wife's friends and then make the final decisions. You think there should be no more than 60 guests including friends and family.

Student B – you are Anna's close friend; you've known her since primary school. You know about her taste in music which is pop from the 60's and 70's – she's always been a big fan of The Rolling Stones. You think the party should include live music and dancing. You also think it would be fun to invite a few old school friends who Anna hasn't seen for years.

Student C – you are Anna's close friend; you know her from University where you both studied Linguistics. You went travelling with Anna to India when you were students – you know she loves Indian food and culture. You think the party should have an Indian theme as Anna is a specialist in Sanskrit and has visited India often over the years. You think it would be good to invite some university friends who Anna hasn't seen since she graduated.

Student D – you are a colleague of Anna's, and a very good friend. You've worked together for 7 years at a University. You have a good friend who owns a local restaurant and you think this could be a good venue for the party. There's also a hotel you know which could be a good venue. You suggest that there are a few staff and students who should be invited to the party.



Vocabulary: Suggestions & Offers

Making a Suggestion

Shall we ... + infinitive without to ...?

Let's ... + present simple

Why don't we ... + present simple ...?

How about ... + ...ing verb ...?

We can/could/should ... + infinitive without to

Shall we carry on with this exercise?

Let's take a break.

Why don't we take the car?

How about visiting a museum?

We should meet for a coffee later.

Responding to suggestions

That's a great idea!

No, I don't feel like it

Why not!

I'd prefer to...

I'm not sure...

I'll check if I'm free

I'd love to!

It depends on...

Perhaps later/tomorrow...

That would be lovely

Offering to do something

I'll/I will ... + infinitive without to

I can/could... + infinitive without to

Would you like me to... + infinitive

I'll look after the children while you're out.

I can give you a lift to the station if you like

Would you like me to get some bread?

Responding to offers

That would be really helpful, thank you!

That'd be great, thanks!

That's very kind of you, thanks!

That's very kind of you to offer, but...

That really isn't necessary...

Don't worry...

There's no need

It's already been taken care of!