

Still friends?

1 VOCABULARY & SPEAKING friendship

a Complete the text with the phrases below.

argue close friend colleague get on very well
have a lot in common keep in touch known
lost touch met



I have a *close friend* called Irene. I've ¹ _____ her for about 15 years now. We ² _____ at work – she was a ³ _____ of mine at the company where I used to work, and we used to have our coffee breaks at the same time.

We ⁴ _____ although we don't ⁵ _____ – we have quite different interests. We don't work together any more, and when I changed jobs we ⁶ _____ for a couple of years. But now we ⁷ _____ regularly. We phone each other once a week, and we see each other about twice a month. We don't often ⁸ _____, only sometimes about films as we have completely different tastes!

b Think of a close friend of yours. In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

How long have you known him / her?

Where did you meet?

Why do you get on well?

What do you have in common?

Do you ever argue? What about?

How often do you see each other?

How do you keep in touch the rest of the time?

Have you ever lost touch? Why? When?

Do you think you'll stay friends?

2 GRAMMAR usually and used to

a Have you ever tried to get in touch with an old friend? Why? Did you succeed?

b Read about the *Friends Reunited* website and answer the questions.

1 What's it for?

2 How do you use it?

Friends Reunited is a website which helps you to find old friends and let's you read what people you've lost touch with are doing now.



How does it work?

New visitors find their old schools or workplaces, which are usually listed on the web page, and then add their names to the list of people already registered. They can also post photos and information about what they are doing now. When they want to contact another member, *Friends Reunited* forwards the message. Communication takes place without revealing personal email addresses or contact details until members decide they want to do so.

c Now read about two people who registered on the website. Who did they want to meet? Why?

d Complete the texts with the sentences below.

he used to go to I used to know I used to live
used to come we used to go out

e Look at the two texts again. When do we use *used to*? How do you make negatives and questions?

f p.136 Grammar Bank 4C. Read the rules and do the exercises.

Friends Reunited?



Carol, 52, from Cornwall

When I was 15 I fell in love with a boy called Robert. I was at school, a girls' convent, and he was in his first year at university. ¹ _____ in secret because my parents didn't like him at all – Robert was a long-haired hippy who played the guitar. But after a year I broke up with him because my parents were making my life impossible. Robert was very angry, and we completely lost touch. But I always wondered what had happened to him, and when I heard about *Friends Reunited* I decided to try to get in touch again. I'm divorced now, and I thought 'you never know...'. I remembered the name of the school that ² _____ and I went to their web page on *Friends Reunited* and there was his name! I sent him an email and two days later I got a reply...



Alex, 24, from Manchester

³ _____ in Manchester but when I was eighteen my family moved south to London. Two years ago I had a really bad motorbike accident. I was in a coma for two weeks and in hospital for six months. I completely lost my memory, not just of the crash itself but also of my past. While I was in hospital, my family ⁴ _____ every day and play me my favourite music and show me photos. Little by little I began to remember who I was and who my family were. But I still couldn't remember anything about the rest of my life. Then my sister had the idea of contacting *Friends Reunited*. Through them she contacted people ⁵ _____ in Manchester when I was at school. She arranged a reunion in a pub near Piccadilly Station and I travelled to Manchester in search of my past.

3 LISTENING

- a **4.11** Read the text about Carol again. Now listen to her talking about what happened next. Was the meeting a success?
- b Listen again and answer questions 1–5.
- 1 Why was Carol surprised at Robert's choice of job?
 - 2 What happened when she got to the restaurant?
 - 3 What do Carol and Robert look like now?
 - 4 What did Carol realize as soon as she saw Robert?
 - 5 How had Robert changed?
- c **4.12** Read the text about Alex again. Now listen to him talking about what happened next. Was the meeting a success?
- d Listen again and answer questions 6–10.
- 6 Did he recognize any of the people?
 - 7 How did he feel?
 - 8 What did they talk to him about?
 - 9 What did he remember when he saw the photos?
 - 10 Who is Anna? What does he think of her now?

4 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING /s/ or /z/?



- a **4.13** Listen to the sentences. Is the **se** in the verbs pronounced /s/ or /z/? Write s or z in the box. Which pronunciation is more common?
- 1 I **used** to live in London.
 - 2 I **used** my credit card to pay.
 - 3 Excuse **me**. Can you help me?
 - 4 You need to **practise** your pronunciation.
 - 5 We won't win, we'll **lose**.
 - 6 They **advertise** on TV.
 - 7 They **promised** to keep in touch.
 - 8 Could you **close** the window?

b Now practise saying the sentences.

c In pairs, tell each other about three of the following. Give as much information as you can.



- A machine you used to use a lot but don't any more
- A friend you used to have but who you've lost touch with
- A teacher at school you used to hate
- A sport you used to play but don't any more
- A singer you used to listen to a lot and who you still like
- A food or drink you didn't use to like but like now
- An actor you used to like a lot but don't any more

5 READING

- a How often do you see your really good friends? Would you like to see them more often? Do you spend much time with people you don't really like?
- b Now read the magazine article. What does 'edit your friends' mean?

Do you need to 'edit your friends'?

Is your mobile phone directory full of phone numbers of people you don't really want to talk to? Do you go out with people from work or university more often than with your real friends? Do you say yes to invitations because you think you should, not because you want to? If you answered yes to at least two of these questions, then perhaps it's time to 'edit your friends'?

Nowadays people tend to spend a lot of time socializing with colleagues at work or classmates at university. The result is that we don't have enough time to see our real, close friends. As our lives get busier it becomes more important to spend the little free time we have with people we really want to see, people we love and who really love us.

Who are the friends you need to edit? A few years ago I read a book about how to get rid of unnecessary possessions.

It said you should ask yourself about each thing you have: Is it useful? Do I really like it? Do I feel better every time I look at it? If the answer is no to any one of those questions, you should throw it away. Maybe we should ask similar questions about our friends.

What kind of friends will you probably need to edit? Sometimes it's an old friend. Somebody who you used to have a lot in common with, but who, when you meet now, you have very little or nothing to say to. Or it might be a new friend who you get on quite well with, but who is taking up too much of your time. Next time one of these people calls you and suggests a meeting, think, 'Do I really want to see this person?' and if the answer is no, say no, and make an excuse. That way you'll have more time to spend with your real friends.

Adapted from the British press



- c Now read the article again. Choose the best summary of each paragraph, a, b, or c.
- 1 People need to 'edit' their friends if...
 - a they have moved to a different area.
 - b all their friends are people from work or school.
 - c they are spending a lot of time with people who are not real friends.
 - 2 People today are often very busy, so...
 - a they should see their friends less.
 - b they should think carefully about how they spend their free time.
 - c they should try to make friends with people from work / school.
 - 3 The writer says that...
 - a we should ask ourselves who our real friends are.
 - b most of our friends are unnecessary.
 - c we shouldn't treat friends as possessions.
 - 4 The kind of friends we probably need to 'edit' are...
 - a old friends who don't talk very much.
 - b new friends who talk too much.
 - c friends that you don't really want to see any more.
- d Read the article again. Underline five new words or phrases you want to learn.
- e Do you agree with the article? Do you need to 'edit your friends'?

HOW WORDS WORK...

1 Look at these expressions with *get* which have appeared in this lesson. Match them with their meanings A–G.

1 ...a book about how to **get rid of** unnecessary objects

2 ...a new friend who you **get on with** quite well

3 ...I sort of relaxed and felt I was **getting to know** them again

4 ...I **got to** the pub late

5 ...I decided to try to **get in touch**

6 ...and two days later I **got** a reply

7 ...I **got** really excited

A make contact with somebody

B be friendly with

C become

D know somebody (or something) little by little

E receive

F throw away

G arrive at / in

2 Complete the questions with *get* or an expression with *get*. Ask and answer the questions in pairs.

1 Who do you _____ best in your family?

2 Does it take you long to _____ new people?

3 Do you _____ more emails from friends than work-related ones?

4 How do you normally _____ with your friends (by text, phone, etc.)?

5 How often do you _____ things (e.g. clothes) that you don't use any more?

6 LISTENING & SPEAKING

a **4.14** Read sentences A–F below. Now listen to three people talking. Which sentences are they talking about? Write 1, 2, or 3 next to the sentence.

A Men keep their friends longer than women.

B It's more difficult to keep in touch with friends than it used to be.

C It's impossible to stay 'good friends' with an ex-partner.

D You should never criticize your friend's partner.

E You should never lend money to a friend.

F You can only have two or three close friends.

b Listen again. Do they agree or disagree with the statements? What are their reasons? What examples do they give?

c Now look at the sentences and tick (✓) the ones you agree with and cross (✗) the ones you don't agree with. Think about your reasons.

d In groups, compare opinions. Try to give real examples from your own experience or of people you know. Use the phrases below to help you.

Useful language

Agreeing

I agree with that.

I think that's true.

Disagreeing

I don't agree with that (at all).

I don't think that's true.

Giving examples

For example, I have a friend who...



"Sorry, Frank, but I can no longer go on with this charade. Not only am I not your best friend, I'm not even sure I like you at all."

4A first conditional and future time clauses + *when, until, etc.*

first conditional sentences: *if* (or *unless*) + present simple, *will / won't* + infinitive

If you **don't do** more work, you'll fail the exam.
He'll be late for work **if** he **doesn't hurry up**.
She won't get into university **unless** she **gets** good grades.

- Use the present tense (NOT the future) after *if* in first conditional sentences.
- *unless* = *if...not*
I won't go unless she invites me. = I won't go if she doesn't invite me.
- You can also use an imperative instead of the *will* clause, e.g. *Come and see us next week **if** you have time.*

future time clauses

As soon as you **get** your exam results, **call** me.
We'll have dinner **when** your father **gets** home.
I **won't go** to bed **until** you **come** home.
I'll have lunch **before** I **leave**.

After I **finish** university, I'll probably **take** a year off and travel.

- Use the present simple (NOT the future) after *when, as soon as, until, before, and after* to talk about the future.
- *as soon as* = at the moment when, e.g. *I'll call you as soon as I arrive.*

4B second conditional

second conditional sentences: *if* + past simple, *would / wouldn't* + infinitive

If I **had** more money, I'd **buy** a bigger house.
If he **spoke** English, he **could get** a job in a hotel.
I **would get** on better with my parents if I **didn't live** with them.
I **wouldn't do** that job unless they **paid** me a really good salary.
If I **were** you, I'd **buy** a new computer.

- Use the second conditional to talk about a hypothetical / imaginary situation in the present or future and its consequence. Compare:
I don't have much money, so I can't buy a bigger house (real situation).
If I had more money, I'd buy a bigger house (hypothetical / imaginary situation).
- Use second conditionals beginning *If I were you, I'd...* to give advice. Here you can't use *If I was you*.

would / wouldn't + infinitive

My ideal holiday **would be** a week in the Bahamas.
I'd **never buy** a car as big as yours.

- You can also use *would / wouldn't* + infinitive (without an *if* clause) when you talk about imaginary situations.
- The contraction of *would* is 'd.

▲ Remember the difference between first and second conditionals.

If I have time, I'll help you.

= a possible situation. I may have time.

If I had time, I'd help you.

= an imaginary / hypothetical situation.

I don't / won't have time.

4C *usually* and *used to*

present habits and states

I **usually get up** at 8.00 on school days.
I **don't usually go out** during the week.
Houses in the suburbs **usually have** gardens.
Do you **usually walk** to work?

past habits and states

We **used to be** close friends but we **don't see** each other **any more**.
I **used to go out** with that girl when I was at school.
Did you **use to wear** glasses?
She **didn't use to have** fair hair. She had dark hair before.

- For present habits use *usually* or *normally* + present simple.
- For past habits use *used to / didn't use to* + infinitive. *Used to* does not exist in the present tense.
- We use *used to* for things that were true over a period of time in the past. It usually refers to something which is not true now.
I used to smoke. = I smoked for a period time in the past but now I don't.
- *Used to / didn't use to* can be used with action verbs (e.g. *wear, go out*) and non-action verbs (e.g. *be, have*).
- We often use *not...any more / any longer* (= not now) with the present simple to contrast with *used to*.
I used to go to the gym but I don't any more / any longer.

4A

a Complete with a word or expression from the list.

after as soon as before if unless until when

After we have dinner, we could go for a drink.

- I must write the date in my diary _____ I forget it.
- Let's wait under the tree _____ it stops raining.
- This job is very urgent so please do it _____ you can.
- We won't get a table in the restaurant _____ we don't book.
- I'll pay you back _____ I get my first salary.
- I can't go _____ you pay for my ticket. I'm broke.
- They'll be really happy _____ they hear your news.
- I want to go on working _____ I'm 60. Then I'll retire.
- I must renew my passport _____ I go to New York.
- _____ you work harder, you won't pass the final exam.

b Complete with the present simple or *will*.I'll give him your message when I see him. (see)

- Don't forget to turn off the lights before you _____. (leave)
- Go to bed when the film _____. (finish)
- They _____ married until they find a place to live. (not get)
- If I see Emma, I _____ her you are looking for her. (tell)
- I'll call you as soon as I _____ at the hotel. (arrive)
- You won't be able to park unless you _____ there early. (get)
- As soon it stops raining, we _____ out. (go)
- She won't like curry if she _____ spicy food. (not like)
- Don't write anything until I _____ you. (tell)
- When she finds out what he's done, she _____ furious. (be)

4B

a Write second conditional sentences.

If you / speak to your boss, I'm sure he / understand.

If you spoke to your boss, I'm sure he would understand.

- It / be better for me if we / meet tomorrow.
- She / not treat him like that if she really / love him.
- If I / can live anywhere in the world, I / live in New Zealand.
- The kitchen / look bigger if we / paint it white.
- I / not buy that house if I / be you.
- He / be more attractive if he / wear nicer clothes.
- If we / not have children, we / travel more.
- What / you do in this situation if you / be me?

b First or second conditional? Complete the sentences.

If you tell her anything, she 'll tell everybody in the office. (tell)We'd have a dog if we had a garden. (have)

- It'll be quicker if we _____ a taxi to the airport. (get)
- If you stopped smoking, you _____ better. (feel)
- What would you do if you _____ your job? (lose)
- If you buy the food, I _____ tonight. (cook)
- I think he'd be happier if he _____ alone. (not live)
- I'll be very surprised if Marina _____ coming here. (not get lost)
- Where will he live if he _____ the job in Moscow? (get)
- If she didn't have to look after her mother, she _____ life more. (enjoy)

4C

a Correct the mistakes in the highlighted phrases.

She wasn't use to be so shy. *She didn't use to be*

- I use to get up at 6.30, but I don't any more.
- Did she always used to have long hair?
- Do you use to have breakfast before you go to work?
- They didn't used to have a car, they used to cycle everywhere.
- He doesn't like coffee, so he use to drink tea in the morning.
- He used be a teacher, but now he works for Greenpeace.
- Do usually you wear trousers or skirts?
- Last year we used to go to Prague in August.
- Does she use to live near you when you were children?
- At school we don't use to wear a uniform. We wore what we liked.

b Complete with *used to* in , , or and a verb from the list.

argue be (x2) go have (x2) like live play work

 I didn't use to go to the theatre much but now I go twice a month.

- Kirsty _____ in Bristol but she moved to London last year.
- _____ you _____ a moustache? You look different.
- I _____ my boss but now we get on quite well.
- We _____ really close but now we hardly ever meet.
- Where _____ you _____ before you started with this company?
- She _____ tennis professionally but she retired last year.
- When I lived in Paris, I always _____ breakfast in a café.
- _____ you _____ with your parents when you were a teenager?
- He _____ so slim. In fact, he was quite overweight before.