

Relationships – literacy and numeracy activities

This document contains additional contextualized activities to support English, maths and work readiness skills. There are two versions of each task for ready differentiation. V1 is the standard version, v2 is the simplified version.

This list shows the tasks grouped by skill with their page numbers.

Reading comprehension

What is a family? v1	1
What is a family? v2	3
A festive compromise v1	5
A festive compromise v2	6
Your friends v1	13
Your friends v2	15
You as a partner v1	17
You as a partner v2	19
A night in town v1	21
A night in town v2	23
Moving in v1	29
Moving in v2	31
Engaged v1	33
Engaged v2	35
Are you a good friend? v1	37
Are you a good friend? v2	40
The art of conversation v1	47
The art of conversation v2	48
Whose disability? v1	49
Whose disability? V2	51
A social occasion v1	53
A social occasion v2	56

Spelling and grammar

Family friendly v1	7
Family friendly v2	8

Speaking and listening

What is a family? v1	1
What is a family? v2	3
The art of conversation v1	47
The art of conversation v2	48
Whose disability? v1	49
Whose disability? V2	51
A social occasion v1	53
A social occasion v2	56



Life skills



Writing

A neighbourly dispute v1	25
A neighbourly dispute v2	27
Whose disability? v1	49
Whose disability? V2	51
A social occasion v1	53
A social occasion v2	56

Numeracy

Going to a wedding v1	9
Going to a wedding v2	11
A neighbourly dispute v1	25
A neighbourly dispute v2	27
Dating agencies v1	43
Dating agencies v2	45

What is a family?

Karl is sixteen. He lives at home with his Mum, Dad and younger sister.

- ▶ 1. Which of these people would you say were members of Karl's family? Tick the boxes.

<i>His Mum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His younger sister</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His married brother</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His brother's wife</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His older sister</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His older sister's partner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's wife</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's daughter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad's sister in Australia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad's parents</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's parents</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His pet dog</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's daughter's daughter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- ▶ 2. Compare your answers with those of other people in the group. Did you all tick the same boxes?
- ▶ 3. Discuss the reasons for any differences in your opinions about which people are members of Karl's family.

- ▶ 4. Do people from different religious and ethnic backgrounds have different opinions about what makes a family?

- ▶ 5. If your brother or sister had a same-sex partner, would you regard them as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

What is a family?

- ▶ 6. If you had relatives living a long distance away from you, perhaps in another country, would you still think of them as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

- ▶ 7. If you had a relative but you didn't see them more than once a year, would you still think of them as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

- ▶ 8. If your sister and her husband adopted a child, would you think of that child as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

- ▶ 9. If your mother died and your father remarried, would you regard his second wife as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

- ▶ 10. The word **nuclear** family is used for a household with a mother, father and their children. How many people are in your nuclear family?

- ▶ 11. Can you think of any people who do **not** belong to a nuclear family?

- ▶ 12. The word **extended** family is used for a larger group of relatives who often live near each other and see each other. However, people have different ideas about who is in their extended family. How many people are in your extended family?

What is a family?

Karl is sixteen. He lives at home with his Mum, Dad and younger sister.

- 1. Which of these people would you say were members of Karl's family? Tick the boxes.

<i>His Mum</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His younger sister</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His married brother</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His brother's wife</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His older sister</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His older sister's partner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's wife</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's daughter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad's sister in Australia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Dad's parents</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's parents</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His pet dog</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>His Mum's brother's daughter's daughter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 2. Compare your answers with those of other people in the group. Did you all tick the same boxes?
- 3. Discuss the reasons for any differences in your opinions about which people are members of Karl's family.

- 4. Do people from different religious and ethnic backgrounds have different opinions about what makes a family?

- 5. If your brother or sister had a same-sex partner, would you regard them as part of your family? Say why.

What is a family?

- ▶ 6. If you had relatives living a long distance away from you, perhaps in another country, would you still think of them as part of your family? Say why.

- ▶ 7. If your mother died and your father remarried, would you regard his second wife as part of your family? Give reasons for your answer.

- ▶ 8. The word nuclear family is used for a household with a mother, father and their children. How many people are in your nuclear family?

- ▶ 9. The word **extended** family is used for a larger group of relatives who often live near each other and see each other. How many people are in your extended family?

A festive compromise

Christmas and other festive periods can be testing times. You may find yourself having to be a bit more sociable than usual – making polite conversation with relatives you rarely see, perhaps, or writing greetings cards to acquaintances because they sent one to you. Even worse, it would be rude not to let one of the guests have control of the TV remote. In fact, many Christmas rows are caused by disputes over what to watch on the TV!

Read the information below and complete the chart by ticking which programmes will suit which family members.

Mum likes musicals, soaps, quizzes and cooking.

Dad likes sport, comedy sci-fi and quizzes.

Gran likes soaps, musicals, comedy and crime dramas.

Uncle Tom likes crime dramas, soaps, comedy and cooking.

Jack likes U.S. comedies, cooking, sci-fi and sport.

Emma likes soaps, U.S. comedies and sci-fi.

Programme	Mum	Dad	Gran	Uncle	Tom	Jack	Emma
<i>Christmas cookery special</i>							
<i>Match of the Day</i>							
<i>The Big Quiz of the Year</i>							
<i>Star Wars</i>							
<i>Coronation Street</i>							
<i>Mastermind</i>							
<i>Friends</i>							
<i>The Sound of Music</i>							
<i>Doctor Who</i>							
<i>Chitty Chitty Bang Bang</i>							
<i>British Bake Off</i>							
<i>Eastenders</i>							
<i>Agatha Christie's Poirot</i>							
<i>You've Been Framed</i>							
<i>Question of Sport</i>							

A festive compromise

Christmas and other festive periods can be testing times. You may find yourself having to be a bit more sociable than usual – making polite chit chat with people you rarely see, perhaps, or writing greetings cards to acquaintances because they sent one to you. Even worse, it would be rude not to let one of the guests have control of the TV remote. In fact, many Christmas rows are caused by disputes over what to watch on the TV!

Read the information below and fill in the chart by ticking which shows will suit which family members.

Mum likes musicals, soaps, quizzes and cooking.

Dad likes sport, comedy sci-fi and quizzes.

Gran likes soaps, musicals, comedy and crime dramas.

Uncle Tom likes crime dramas, soaps, comedy and cooking.

Jack likes U.S. comedies, cooking, sci-fi and sport.

Emma likes soaps, U.S. comedies and sci-fi.

Programme	Mum	Dad	Gran	Uncle	Tom	Jack	Emma
<i>Christmas cookery special</i>							
<i>Match of the Day</i>							
<i>The Big Quiz of the Year</i>							
<i>Star Wars</i>							
<i>Coronation Street</i>							
<i>Mastermind</i>							
<i>Friends</i>							
<i>The Sound of Music</i>							
<i>Doctor Who</i>							
<i>Chitty Chitty Bang Bang</i>							
<i>British Bake Off</i>							
<i>Eastenders</i>							
<i>Agatha Christie's Poirot</i>							
<i>You've Been Framed</i>							
<i>Question of Sport</i>							

Family friendly

Being with your family at special times of the year can be wonderful. Unfortunately it can also be a time for arguments, sulks and not much emotional literacy!

This passage is about one family's Christmas. Note the lack of emotional literacy! There are eight grammar mistakes. Read the text and highlight the mistakes. Then use the table at the bottom to correct the errors.

The Pope family was looking forward to Christmas as it has been a while since they were all together. Their son and daughter, Mark and Tracey, both arrived on Christmas Eve and everyone was in a good mood. It started to go wrong the next mornings.

Tracey had manages to save up enough money to buy Mark an expensive football shirt and was looking forward to seeing his face when he opens it. She felt a bit upset when he just said thanks and went onto the next gift. There was more disappointment when she opened Mark's present to find that he'd got it wrong. Right band, wrong CD. She'd even written it down for him! Still, it's the thought that counts and she thanked her brother. He didn't seem to notice that she wasn't over the moon.

After lunch, they settled down to watch TV.

There was an choice of programmes – a

James Bond film, a quiz Christmas special, a documentary and a strong man sports competition. It turned out that everybody wanted to watch something different. As there was only one TV in the house, only one person was satisfied (Mr Pope managed to watch his documentary – it was his TV after all!) and the others sat in a silent sulk. At five o'clock, Mrs Pope prepared a tea, much to the despair of everyone else who felt they couldn't eat another crumb. Still, them forced enough food down to keep Mum happy.

Later that evening, Mr Pope insisted on a family game. After the third round of Monopoly, Mark suggested they watch some more television. Mr Pope was put out. Wasn't Mark enjoying the game? Mrs Pope was secretly pleased, but didn't said anything.

As they went to bed, they all agreed that it had been an lovely day.

<i>Mistake</i>	<i>Correction</i>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Family friendly

Being with your family at special times of the year can be great. It can also be a time for arguments and sulks.

This text is about one family's Christmas. There are eight grammar mistakes. Read the text and highlight the mistakes. Then use the table at the bottom to correct the errors.

The Pope family was looking forward to Christmas as it has been a while since they were all together. Their son and daughter, Mark and Tracey, both arrived on Christmas Eve and everyone was in a good mood. It started to go wrong the next mornings.

Tracey saves up enough money to buy Mark an expensive football shirt and was looking forward to seeing his face when he opens it. She felt a bit upset when he just said thanks and went onto the next gift. It got worse when she opened Mark's present to find that he'd got it wrong. Right band, wrong CD. She'd even written it down for him! Still, it's the thought that counts and she thanked her brother. He didn't seem to notice that she wasn't over the moon.

After lunch, they settled down to watch TV.

There was an choice of programmes – a

James Bond film, a quiz Christmas special, a documentary and a strong man sports contest. It turned out that everyone wanted to watch something different. As there was only one TV in the house, only one person was happy (Mr Pope got to see his documentary – it was his TV after all!) and the others sat in a silent sulk. At five o'clock, Mrs Pope made tea, much to the despair of everyone else who felt they couldn't eat any more. Still, them forced enough food down to keep mum happy.

Later that evening, Mr Pope insisted on a family game. After the third round of Monopoly, Mark thought they should watch some more television. Mr Pope was put out. Wasn't Mark enjoying the game? Mrs Pope was secretly pleased, but didn't said a word.

As they went to bed, they all agreed that it had been an lovely day.

<i>Mistake</i>	<i>Correction</i>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Going to a wedding

A wedding is one example of a very special occasion where a lot of thought has gone into the guest list. It's also an excuse to put your glad rags on and have a good time with people you haven't seen for a while, as well as make new friends.

The Kramers will need to book travel and accommodation as well as buy new outfits and a wedding present.

Look at Mrs Kramer's list showing her estimates of the costs for going to the family wedding then answer the questions.

new outfits (including a new suit for Mr Kramer)	£ 147.00
train fare (return)	£ 60.00
bed & breakfast (one night)	£ 40.00
gift	£ 40.00

- ▶ 1. Mrs Kramer's total estimated expenditure is £287.00.

What is the average (mean) cost per item on the list?

- ▶ 2. If the cost of the new outfits is split equally between Mr Kramer, Mrs Kramer and Sarah Kramer, how much is it each?

- ▶ 3. This is a list of the actual costs of the items on Mrs Kramer's list.

new outfits	£ 192.26
train fare (return)	£ 65.00
bed and breakfast (one night)	£ 42.50
gift	£ 39.85

Round these amounts of money to the nearest £1.00.

£192.26

£42.50

£39.85

- ▶ 4. Round the same amounts of money to the nearest 50p.

Going to a wedding

▶ 5. How much less was Mrs Kramer's estimate of the cost of new outfits than the actual cost?

▶ 6. What is the total difference between Mrs Kramer's estimates and the actual costs?

Going to a wedding

A wedding is one example of a very special occasion where a lot of thought has gone into the guest list. It's also an excuse to put your glad rags on and have a good time with people you haven't seen for a while, as well as make new friends.

The Kramers will need to book travel and accommodation as well as buy new outfits and a wedding present.

Look at Mrs Kramer's list showing her estimates of the costs for going to the family wedding then answer the questions.

new outfits (including a new suit for Mr Kramer)	£ 150.00
train fare (return)	£ 60.00
bed & breakfast (one night)	£ 40.00
gift	£ 40.00

- ▶ 1. Mrs Kramer's total estimated expenditure is £290.00.

What is the average (mean) cost per item on the list?

- ▶ 2. If the cost of the new outfits is split equally between Mr Kramer, Mrs Kramer and Sarah Kramer, how much is it each?

- ▶ 3. This is a list of the actual costs of the items on Mrs Kramer's list.

new outfits	£ 199.98
train fare (return)	£ 65.00
bed and breakfast (one night)	£ 42.50
gift	£ 39.85

Round these amounts of money to the nearest £1.00.

£192.98

£42.50

£39.85

- ▶ 4. Round the same amounts of money to the nearest 50p.

Going to a wedding

▶ 5. How much less was Mrs Kramer's estimate of the cost of new outfits than the actual cost?

▶ 6. What is the total difference between Mrs Kramer's estimates and the actual costs?

Your friends

There is an old saying: 'You can judge a person by the company they keep.'

- 1. What does this saying mean?
-

Read about Robbie and his friends ...

I've got loads of mates. We have a laugh because there's always lots of banter. Mick gives us all stick. He calls me pencil-man because I'm dead skinny. Jay is always playing tricks on us. The other day he took the wheels off my bike and hid them. I was going to the hospital to see my Nan and I was late and she died before I got there, but I didn't say anything to Jay because he's a good lad and he only meant it as a laugh. I went to the funeral this morning and afterwards I was a bit upset when I met the lads, but Jonno started laughing and said, "Look, he's crying. His granny must have left him nothing in her will." Last year we went on holiday to Ibiza. On the first night Chris spiked my drink and I was sick in a club. The bouncers threw me out. I had a broken arm,

but I didn't realise at first. I met this fit girl from Aberdeen and when I was talking to her, Steve poured a pint over my head. She couldn't see the funny side of it. When we got home Ricky had to go to court. He got sent down for six months, which wasn't fair because he didn't know that the car he nicked had dodgy brakes and the damage he did to the shop was hardly anything, and the dog was old and would have died soon even if he hadn't squashed it. I used to be mates with Carl as well, but he doesn't hang round with us now. He thinks he is better than me because he went to college. Last time I saw him he was wearing a suit! He asked me what I was up to and said that maybe I should go to college and get some qualifications. He is a sad person.

- 2. What do you think about Robbie's mates? Write a few words about each of them.

Mick

Jay

Jonno

Chris

Steve

Ricky

Carl

- 3. What about Robbie? Write your opinions about him.
-
-

- 4. What advice would you give to Robbie if you met him?
-
-

Your friends

- ▶ 5. What should a good friend be like? Write a few words, phrases or sentences to describe a good friend.

- ▶ 6. Now think about your friends. Without naming names, what are they like? How do they match up to your ideas about a good friend?

- ▶ 7. Now think back to the saying, 'You can judge a person by the company they keep.' What does your choice of friends say about *you*?

- ▶ 8. Do you have any plans to change your friends? If so, say what you are going to do.

Your friends

There is an old saying: 'You can judge a person by the company they keep.'

- 1. What does this saying mean?
-

Read about Robbie and his friends ...

I've got loads of mates. We have a laugh because there's always lots of banter. Mick gives us all stick. He calls me pencil-man because I'm dead skinny. Jay is always playing tricks on us. The other day he took the wheels off my bike and hid them. I was going to the hospital to see my Nan and I was late and she died before I got there, but I didn't say anything to Jay because he's a good lad and he only meant it as a laugh. I went to the funeral this morning and afterwards I was a bit upset when I met the lads, but Jonno started laughing and said, "Look, he's crying. His granny must have left him nothing in her will." Last year we went on holiday to Ibiza. On the first night Chris spiked my drink and I was sick in a club. The bouncers threw me out. I had a broken arm,

but I didn't realise at first. I met this fit girl and when I was talking to her, Steve poured a pint over my head. She couldn't see the funny side of it. When we got home Ricky had to go to court. He got sent down for six months, which wasn't fair because he didn't know that the car he nicked had dodgy brakes and the damage he did to the shop was hardly anything, and the dog was old and would have died soon even if he hadn't squashed it. I used to be mates with Carl as well, but he doesn't hang round with us now. He thinks he is better than me because he went to college. Last time I saw him he was wearing a suit! He asked me what I was up to and said that maybe I should go to college and sort myself out. He is a sad person.

- 2. What do you think about Robbie's mates? Write a few words about each of them.

Mick

Jay

Jonno

Chris

Steve

Ricky

Carl

- 3. What about Robbie? Write your opinions about him.
-
-

- 4. What advice would you give to Robbie if you met him?
-
-

Your friends

- ▶ 5. What should a good friend be like? Write a few words, phrases or sentences to describe a good friend.

- ▶ 6. Now think about your friends. Without naming names, what are they like? How do they match up to your ideas about a good friend?

- ▶ 7. Now think back to the saying, 'You can judge a person by the company they keep.' What does your choice of friends say about *you*?

- ▶ 8. Do you have any plans to change your friends? If so, say what you are going to do.

You as a partner

Speed Dating is very popular with busy people who are looking for a partner.

Try this version ...

- Imagine that you have one minute to talk. The main idea is to say what you would be like as a partner.
- Think about what you should include – your good points and perhaps a few of your bad points.
- On a piece of paper, write down what you would say about yourself. This is your Partner Profile.
- Put your name at the bottom of your Partner Profile.
- Hand it to your teacher.
- The teacher will mix up the Partner Profiles and then read them out without telling you the names, but giving each one a number.
- Write down who you think wrote each Partner Profile.

▶ 1. How many Partner Profiles did you guess correctly out of the total?

.....

▶ 2. How easy was it to work out who wrote each Partner Profile? What made it hard?

.....
.....
.....

▶ 3 How easy was it to write honestly about yourself? What made it difficult?

.....
.....
.....

▶ 4. In real life, people don't always fall in love and live happily ever after. Make a list of the reasons why so many relationships fail.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

You as a partner

- ▶ 5. Imagine that you have met someone you really like. You want to start a serious relationship and perhaps get married and have children. What things will you need to discuss before you make a final decision about your future together? Make a list.

- ▶ 6. When people get married they usually make 'wedding vows' to each other. These are usually promises which were made up and written down years ago. For example:

"To have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness or in health, to love and to cherish till death do us part."

Nowadays many people make up their own vows. Write down the vows or promises that you would make if you wanted to enter into a partnership with someone you love.

You as a partner

Speed Dating is very popular with busy people who are looking for a partner.

Try this ...

- Imagine that you have one minute to talk. The main idea is to say what you would be like as a partner.
- Think about what you should include – your good points and perhaps a few of your bad points.
- On a piece of paper, write down what you would say about yourself. This is your Partner Profile.
- Put your name at the bottom of your Partner Profile.
- Hand it to your teacher.
- The teacher will mix up the Partner Profiles and then read them out without telling you the names, but giving each one a number.
- Write down who you think wrote each Partner Profile.

▶ 1. How many Partner Profiles did you guess correctly out of the total?

.....

▶ 2. How easy was it to work out who wrote each Partner Profile? What made it hard?

.....
.....
.....

▶ 3 How easy was it to write honestly about yourself? What made it hard?

.....
.....
.....

▶ 4. In real life, people don't always fall in love and live happily ever after. Make a list of the reasons why many relationships fail.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

You as a partner

- ▶ 5. Imagine that you have met someone you really like. You want to start a serious relationship and perhaps get married and have kids. What things will you need to discuss before you make a final decision about your future? Make a list.

- ▶ 6. When people get married they usually make 'wedding vows' to each other. These are usually promises which were made up years ago. For example:

"To have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness or in health, to love and to cherish till death do us part."

Some people make up their own vows. Write down the vows or promises that you would make if you wanted to enter into a partnership with someone you love.

A night in town

Sometimes alcohol and conflict seem to go hand in hand ...

The bar was full. It was hot and noisy. In the middle of the room there was a group of young people singing and shouting. Two of them were standing on chairs. One of the bouncers went over and asked them to calm things down a bit. One of the girls, Emma, said, "We're only having fun. It's Tom's birthday." The bouncer wasn't happy. "I don't care whose birthday it is," he said, "you're not behaving like that in here." Emma and her friend, Kaisha, got down off the chairs and the bouncer walked away. Tom downed his drink and said, "Let's go somewhere else." He turned round and bumped into a girl in a red dress, who was walking back from the toilet. "Watch what you're doing, you ****!" she said. "Sorry, luv," said Tom. "Give us a kiss." She pushed him away and he fell into Emma and knocked her drink over her dress. "You stupid cow!" said Emma to the girl. "Who do you think you're talking to?" said the girl. Tom thought he would calm things down and he put his arm round the girl and said, "Hey, we don't want any trouble." She pushed his arm

away and at that moment her boyfriend walked up to Tom and grabbed him. "Don't ***** touch my bird, you little ****!" Tom was too drunk to react, but Kaisha said, "Your ***** bird is a ***** slapper!" Tom laughed ... Three and a half hours later he woke up in the A & E unit of the local hospital. He couldn't remember what had happened, but his head ached all over, he could hardly open his mouth and he couldn't see out of his left eye. As he tried to lift his head he felt sick. He saw a nurse, but before he could say anything he vomited. The nurse wiped him down and asked him how he was feeling. He couldn't speak. A doctor walked over and she and the nurse, turned away and discussed Tom's injuries. "It looks like a fractured facial bone and he's lost three teeth," said the doctor, who was about the same age as Tom. "He's going to feel worse when he sobers up," said the nurse, "but I haven't got much sympathy." Luckily, Tom didn't hear this; he was being sick again.

- 1. What do you think happened after Tom laughed?

- 2. Think about the events and write down what part each of the people played in the situation. You might want to say whether each of them was in some way to blame.

Tom

Emma

Kaisha

The bouncer

A night in town

The girl in the red dress

Her boyfriend

▶ 3. Why do you think the nurse said that she didn't have much sympathy for Tom?

▶ 4. How will Tom be affected by what happened?

▶ 5. Imagine that you are Tom's mate. What would you say to him?

▶ 6. Tom's birthday was a disaster, but it could have been a happy occasion. What could each of the people have done to avoid it turning out the way it did?

Tom

Emma

Kaisha

The bouncer

The girl in the red dress

Her boyfriend

A night in town

Sometimes alcohol and conflict seem to go hand in hand ...

The bar was full. It was hot and noisy. In the middle of the room there was a group of young people singing and shouting. Two of them were standing on chairs. One of the bouncers went over and asked them to calm things down a bit. One of the girls, Emma, said, "We're only having fun. It's Tom's birthday." The bouncer wasn't happy. "I don't care whose birthday it is," he said, "you're not acting like that in here." Emma and her friend, Kaisha, got down off the chairs and the bouncer walked away. Tom downed his drink and said, "Let's go somewhere else." He turned round and bumped into a girl in a red dress, who was walking back from the toilet. "Watch what you're doing, you ****!" she said. "Sorry, luv," said Tom. "Give us a kiss." She pushed him away and he fell into Emma and knocked her drink over her dress. "You stupid cow!" said Emma to the girl. "Who do you think you're talking to?" said the girl. Tom thought he would calm things down and he put his arm round the girl and said, "Hey, we

don't want any trouble." She pushed his arm away and at that moment her boyfriend walked up to Tom and grabbed him. "Don't ***** touch my bird, you little ****!" Tom was too drunk to react, but Kaisha said, "Your ***** bird is a ***** slapper!" Tom laughed ... Three and a half hours later he woke up in the A & E unit of the local hospital. He couldn't remember what had happened, but his head ached all over, he could hardly open his mouth and he couldn't see out of his left eye. As he tried to lift his head he felt sick. He saw a nurse, but before he could say anything he was sick. The nurse wiped him down and asked him how he was feeling. He couldn't speak. A doctor walked over and she and the nurse, turned away and discussed Tom's injuries. "It looks like a broken facial bone and he's lost three teeth," said the doctor, who was about the same age as Tom. "He's going to feel worse when he sobers up," said the nurse, "but I don't feel that sorry for him."

- 1. What do you think happened after Tom laughed?

- 2. Think about the events and write down what part each of the people played. You might want to say if each of them was in some way to blame.

Tom

Emma

Kaisha

The bouncer

A night in town

The girl in the red dress

Her boyfriend

▶ 3. Why do you think the nurse said that she didn't feel sorry for Tom?

▶ 4. How will Tom be affected by what happened?

▶ 5. Imagine that you are Tom's mate. What would you say to him?

▶ 6. Tom's birthday was a mess, but it could have been happy. What could each of the people have done to avoid it turning out the way it did?

Tom

Emma

Kaisha

The bouncer

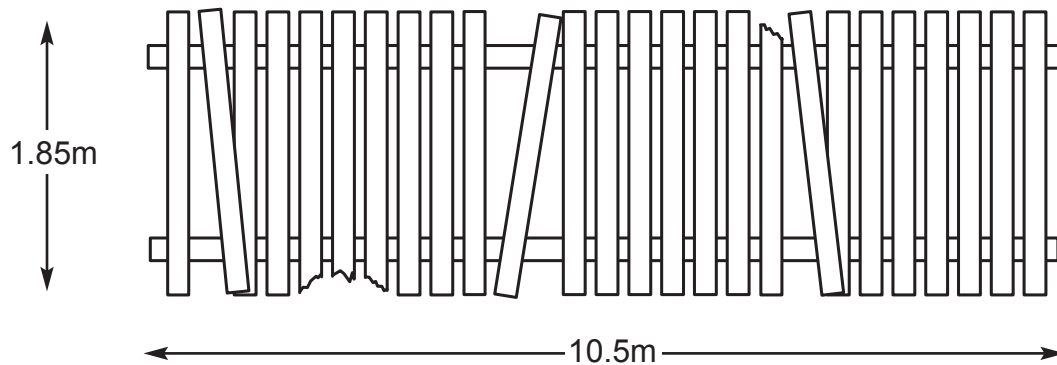
The girl in the red dress

Her boyfriend

A neighbourly dispute

Dealing with neighbours can be tricky sometimes. Most neighbourly disputes are about noise, trees, children's behaviour, boundaries, etc. When this happens, it is best if both sides can come to an agreement without losing tempers or too much arguing. After all, you have to live next door to each other!

A fence between Mark's house and his neighbour's (Mr Owen) badly needs replacing. At first, Mr Owen claims it is Mark's responsibility. Mark checks this out and discovers that it is their joint responsibility. Mark decides to ask him to pay half the cost of a new fence. First, he gets three quotes.



Look at the quotes and work out which would be the cheapest way for the fence to be fixed.

Contractor	Quote	
Fences4u Ltd	£35.00 per panel	1.85m high by 1.5m wide
King's Acre Fencing Contractors	£280.00	whole job
Fenced Up & Co	£130.00 per day	(4 panels 1.85m high × 1.5m wide per day)

(Tip: You need to work out how many panels are required.)

Mark decides to go to Mr Owen with the cheapest quote. Work out how much they would each have to pay.

Mark approaches Mr Owen with his quote but is unsuccessful. Mr Owen is still adamant that the fence is not his responsibility. Mark decides to write him a letter.

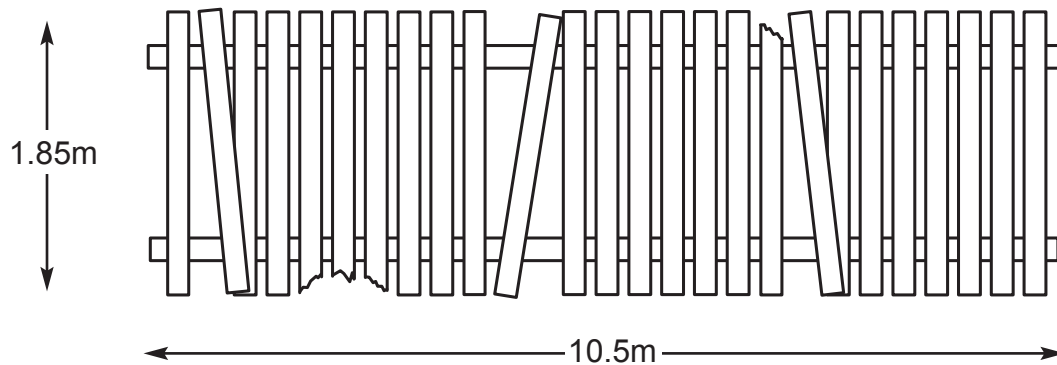
There are three things Mark wishes to include in the letter:

1. the quote he has chosen
2. the legal documents showing that the fence is their joint responsibility
3. the fact that he can contact Mediation UK to help them negotiate if they cannot agree.

A neighbourly dispute

Dealing with neighbours isn't always easy. Most neighbourly disputes are about noise, trees, children's behaviour, boundaries, etc. When this happens, it is best if both sides can come to agree without losing tempers or too much arguing. After all, you have to live next door to each other!

A fence between Mark's house and his neighbour's (Mr Owen) badly needs replacing. At first, Mr Owen claims it is Mark's responsibility. Mark checks this out and discovers that it is their joint responsibility. Mark decides to ask him to pay half the cost of a new fence. First, he gets three quotes.



Look at the quotes and work out which would be the cheapest way for the fence to be fixed.

Contractor	Quote	
Fences4u Ltd	£35.00 per panel	1.85m high by 1.5m wide
King's Acre Fencing Contractors	£280.00	whole job
Fenced Up & Co	£130.00 per day	(4 panels 1.85m high × 1.5m wide per day)

(Tip: You need to work out how many panels are required.)

Mark decides to go to Mr Owen with the cheapest quote. Work out how much they would each have to pay.

Mark shows Mr Owen the quote but Mr Owen says that the fence is not his responsibility. Mark decides to write him a letter.

There are three things Mark wants to include in the letter:

1. the quote he has chosen
2. the legal documents showing that the fence is their joint responsibility
3. the fact that he can contact Mediation UK to help them if they cannot agree.

Moving in

Rashid and Sarah recently decided to move in together. Read these pages from their blogs.

I was really looking forward to living with Rashid. I thought we'd get on because we've been going out for nearly a year and we've been on holiday together. At first it was great, but little things have started to annoy me. He leaves his clothes on the floor in the bathroom and on the landing. Last night I tripped on a pair of his dirty underpants and hurt my back. He thought it was funny. I asked him about re-decorating the living room and getting a new kitchen, but he said it's his house and he likes it as it is. I said that I pay half the bills so I should have a say. He wouldn't discuss it and he just sat there sulking and then went out to the pub on his own. Next morning he was fine, but we haven't talked about it since. When he was on his own his mates used to come round every Thursday night and they still come now. I don't mind, but they hardly talk to me and they just play cards and get drunk. Next morning there's empty cans and dirty plates all over the floor. Rashid tells me to leave it and he'll clean up later, but I can't stand leaving a mess so I end up doing it before I go to work. I don't really like the way his mates behave, but when I try to discuss it he just tells me not to let it bother me. Last week I mentioned to him that it would be nice if we invited our parents for Christmas dinner, but I could tell he wasn't keen. He hasn't said anything since and I don't want to bring it up again in case he sulks. Oh yes – and I think I might be pregnant, but I haven't told Rashid.

I asked Sarah to move in with me a few weeks ago. I thought we'd get on because we've been going out for nearly a year and we've been on holiday together. I don't think she's too happy though. She's always moaning about things. Just because she helps with the bills she thinks it's her house. I like it the way I've always had it and she wants to change things. I really like her, but she's too fussy and she's always tidying up. I tell her to chill, but she takes no notice. I think she works too hard. Most nights she comes home from work and says she's tired and just wants to have her dinner and go to bed. I like to watch telly, but then she's asleep when I go up. We still go out at weekends, but she keeps saying that we should start saving our money. I don't know what for. It's not as if we're planning on having kids or anything. I don't think she likes my mates coming round, but I've known them longer than I've known her and they're all good lads. Last week she started talking about arrangements for Christmas and it's only September. I fancy going away for Christmas anyway. We can always get a last-minute flight to somewhere hot. I hate being with the family at Christmas. Things will probably sort themselves out though, because I'm easy-going and Sarah just needs to relax a bit more.

► 1. Why do you think Rashid and Sarah moved in together?

► 2. Do you think that Rashid and Sarah are getting off to a good start? Give reasons for your answer.

► 3. Do you think Rashid and Sarah love each other? Give reasons for your answer.

Moving in

▶ 4. Does it matter whether they love one another or not? Give reasons for your answer.

▶ 5. What are Rashid's complaints about Sarah?

▶ 6. What are Sarah's complaints about Rashid?

▶ 7. Are their complaints important? Give reasons for your answer.

▶ 8. Who do you think is to blame for what is happening?

▶ 9. Do you think that Sarah and Rashid knew enough about each other before they moved in together? Give reasons for your answer.

▶ 10. What do you think will happen to Sarah and Rashid and their relationship?

▶ 11. What advice would you give to young people like Sarah and Rashid, who are thinking of moving in together? Make a list.

Moving in

Rashid and Sarah have just moved in together. Read these pages from their blogs.

I was really looking forward to living with Rashid. I thought we'd get on because we've been going out for nearly a year and we've been on holiday together. At first it was great, but little things have started to annoy me. He leaves his clothes on the floor in the bathroom and on the landing. Last night I tripped on a pair of his dirty underpants and hurt my back. He thought it was funny. I asked him about re-decorating the living room and getting a new kitchen, but he said it's his house and he likes it as it is. I said that I pay half the bills so I should have a say. He wouldn't discuss it and he just sat there sulking and then went out to the pub on his own. Next morning he was fine, but we haven't talked about it since. When he was on his own his mates used to come round every Thursday night and they still come now. I don't mind, but they hardly talk to me and they just play cards and get drunk. Next morning there's empty cans and dirty plates all over the floor. Rashid tells me to leave it and he'll clean up later, but I can't stand leaving a mess so I end up doing it before I go to work. I don't really like the way his mates act, but when I try to discuss it he just tells me not to let it bother me. Last week I said that it would be nice if we invited our parents for Christmas dinner, but I could tell he wasn't keen. He hasn't said a word about it since and I don't want to bring it up again in case he sulks. Oh yes – and I think I might be pregnant, but I haven't told Rashid.

I asked Sarah to move in with me a few weeks ago. I thought we'd get on because we've been going out for nearly a year and we've been on holiday together. I don't think she's too happy. She's always moaning about things. Just because she helps with the bills she thinks it's her house. I like it the way I've always had it and she wants to change things. I really like her, but she's too fussy and she's always tidying up. I tell her to chill, but she takes no notice. I think she works too hard. Most nights she comes home from work and says she's tired and just wants to have her dinner and go to bed. I like to watch telly, but then she's asleep when I go up. We still go out at weekends, but she keeps saying that we should start saving our money. I don't know what for. It's not as if we're planning on having kids or anything. I don't think she likes my mates coming round, but I've known them longer than I've known her and they're all good lads. Last week she started talking about Christmas and it's only September. I fancy going away for Christmas anyway. We can always get a last-minute flight to somewhere hot. I hate being with the family at Christmas. Things will sort themselves out though, because I'm easy-going and Sarah just needs to relax a bit more.

► 1. Why do you think Rashid and Sarah moved in together?

► 2. Do you think that Rashid and Sarah are getting off to a good start? Say why.

► 3. What are Rashid's complaints about Sarah?

Moving in

▶ 4. What are Sarah's complaints about Rashid?

.....

▶ 5. Are their complaints important? Say why.

.....

.....

▶ 6. Who do you think is to blame for what is happening?

.....

▶ 7. Do you think that Sarah and Rashid knew enough about each other before they moved in together? Say why.

.....

.....

▶ 8. What advice would you give to young people like Sarah and Rashid, who are thinking of moving in together? Make a list.

.....

.....

.....

Engaged

Simone and Tom have decided to get married...

Simone: Tom, do you think we should get engaged?

Tom: We *are* engaged. We just said we're getting married.

Simone: Yes, but that's not the same thing. We haven't told anyone that we're engaged.

Tom: We only made up our minds to get married five minutes ago!

Simone: But what are we going to say when we do tell people?

Tom: I thought maybe we could say something like ... we're getting married.

Simone: But shouldn't we say we're getting engaged first?

Tom: Why? It doesn't matter. We're getting married, so that's the same thing.

Simone: I'm thinking that it would be nice to have an engagement party.

Tom: What for? We'll be having a party when we get married.

Simone: That's a reception. It's not the same. I'd like a party. My two sisters had engagement parties.

Tom: It costs money to have a party. Who's going to pay for it?

Simone: My Mum and Dad wouldn't mind helping. And we could pay for some things.

Tom: What things?

Simone: Well, we'd have to hire a room and a disco and a proper buffet.

Tom: How much do you think that will cost? And how many people are you thinking of inviting?

Simone: Just family and friends. I think they'd like it.

Tom: I'm sure they will – it's a free night out. Everyone likes a free night out.

Simone: It's not really free; they'd have to buy us a present.

Tom: As well as a wedding present? That's a bit cheeky, isn't it?

▶ 1. What does it mean to get engaged?

▶ 2. List some reasons why people get engaged.

▶ 3. Why does Simone want to get engaged?

Engaged

▶ 4. Why is Tom not keen to get engaged?

.....

▶ 5. Do you think it is cheeky to expect people to buy a present for your engagement as well as for your wedding? Give reasons for your answer.

.....

▶ 6. If a relative invited you to a party to celebrate their engagement, how much do you think you would spend on a present?

.....

▶ 7. List five things which would make good engagement presents.

.....

.....

▶ 8. If there were 100 guests and each of them spent roughly the same as you on presents, what would be the total value of the presents?

.....

▶ 9. Think about the **rough** cost of putting on the engagement party. Which would be more, the cost of the party or the total value of the presents?

.....

▶ 10. Do you think **you** will get engaged before you get married? Give your reasons.

.....

.....

Engaged

Simone and Tom have decided to get married...

Simone: Tom, do you think we should get engaged?

Tom: We *are* engaged. We just said we're getting married.

Simone: Yes, but that's not the same thing. We haven't told anyone that we're engaged.

Tom: We only made up our minds to get married five minutes ago!

Simone: But what are we going to say when we do tell people?

Tom: I thought maybe we could say something like ... we're getting married.

Simone: But shouldn't we say we're getting engaged first?

Tom: Why? It doesn't matter. We're getting married, so that's the same thing.

Simone: I'm thinking that it would be nice to have an engagement party.

Tom: What for? We'll be having a party when we get married.

Simone: That's a reception. It's not the same. I'd like a party. My two sisters had engagement parties.

Tom: It costs money to have a party. Who's going to pay for it?

Simone: My Mum and Dad wouldn't mind helping. And we could pay for some things.

Tom: What things?

Simone: Well, we'd have to hire a room and a disco and a proper buffet.

Tom: How much do you think that will cost? And how many people are you thinking of inviting?

Simone: Just family and friends. I think they'd like it.

Tom: I'm sure they will – it's a free night out. Everyone likes a free night out.

Simone: It's not really free; they'd have to buy us a present.

Tom: As well as a wedding present? That's a bit cheeky, isn't it?

▶ 1. Why does Simone want to get engaged?

▶ 2. Why is Tom not keen to get engaged?

Engaged

- ▶ 3. Do you think it is cheeky to expect people to buy a present for your engagement as well as for your wedding? Give reasons for your answer.

.....

- ▶ 4. If a relative invited you to a party to celebrate their engagement, how much do you think you would spend on a present?

.....

- ▶ 5. List five things which would make good engagement presents.

.....

.....

- ▶ 6. If there were 100 guests and each of them spent roughly the same as you on presents, what would be the total value of the presents?

.....

Are you a good friend?

It's time for some deep thinking ...

- 1. There is an old saying: 'A cat and a dog are different, but a giraffe is taller than both of them.' What is the meaning of this saying? Choose one of the following, or write in your own meaning.

<i>A giraffe is not just for Christmas</i>	
<i>You can only be as tall as your own weight</i>	
<i>Look up and you won't see what's below</i>	
<i>Everyone is different, but some are more so</i>	
<i>It's no use trying to be a giraffe if you're not one</i>	

- 2. There are 'well-known sayings' for lots of things in life and some of them make more sense than others. For example: 'A friend in need is a friend indeed.' Write down what you think this means.
-
-

Read these stories about friends.

A. Katie's story

Callie called round last night at half past eleven. She was crying because her boyfriend had left her. She said, "I need a friend." I think she meant me. I was knackered, but I made her a cup of Horlicks. It didn't work. "What am I going to do?" she said. "How should I know?" I told her. "I can't go on," she said. "Yes you can," I said. "He was a **** and you're better off without him." She started crying again. "Listen, Callie," I said, "It's late and I'm in work tomorrow. Go home and get some sleep. It'll all seem better in the morning."

B. Ali's story

Sam never had any money. He didn't have a job, which didn't help. I met him yesterday and he asked if I would lend him a hundred quid. I'd lent him money before and he still owed me about two hundred and fifty pounds. I asked him what it was for. He said, "Don't ask, Ali. Just be a good friend and lend it to me." He looked worried. I wanted to help, but he was just getting deeper into trouble. I said, "Sam, I haven't got the money." I was lying and I think he knew it. "Okay," he said. "But I thought you were my friend." I said, "I am your friend and I'll help you in any way I can, but I don't think lending you more money is the best thing to do.'

Are you a good friend?

C. Sarah's story

Tania's mother died three weeks ago. I couldn't go to the funeral because I get upset at funerals, but I sent a card. We had booked a holiday together and I told her I thought she should go ahead with it because it would cheer her up. She was miserable for the whole fortnight. I tried my best to get her to enjoy herself, but after four days I got fed up. We'd go to clubs and bars and she didn't want to drink and so I felt guilty getting off my head and having a good time. I told her she was being selfish. Every time we met some fellas she just sat there looking miserable and they all lost interest, so I just started going out on my own in the end.

D. Tom's story

Everything always seemed to go right for Gary. He was good-looking, sporty and clever. When we were kids we were best friends, but we lost touch. I met him last week and I could see that he was doing really well. He had a great job, a new flat and a smart car. He asked me if I fancied going out for a drink. I met him in town and he told me that he was gay. I was shocked and I didn't know what to say. I wondered if the people in the bar would think I was gay too. Then he suggested going for a meal. I started thinking of excuses, but then I thought I was being stupid. He was an old mate and it didn't matter what anyone thought. So I went.

- ▶ 3. Of the four people in the stories, who was the **best** friend and why?

- ▶ 4. Who was the **worst** friend and why?

- ▶ 5. Choose one of the stories and say how you think their friendship will develop.

- ▶ 6. Choose one of the four stories and say what **you** would have done in that situation.

Are you a good friend?

- ▶ 7. Think about yourself as a friend. On a scale of 1–10, where 1 is the worst friend and 10 is the best friend, give yourself a score.

- ▶ 8. How could you be a better friend?

Are you a good friend?

It's time for some deep thinking ...

- 1. There is an old saying: 'A cat and a dog are different, but a giraffe is taller than both of them.' What is the meaning of this saying? Choose one of the following, or write in your own meaning.

<i>A giraffe is not just for Christmas</i>	
<i>You can only be as tall as your own weight</i>	
<i>Look up and you won't see what's below</i>	
<i>Everyone is different, but some are more so</i>	
<i>It's no use trying to be a giraffe if you're not one</i>	

- 2. There are 'well-known sayings' for lots of things in life and some of them make more sense than others. For example: 'A friend in need is a friend indeed.' Write down what you think this means.
-
-

Read these stories about friends.

A. Katie's story

Callie called round last night. She was crying because her boyfriend had left her. She said, "I need a friend." I think she meant me. I was tired, but I made her a cup of tea. It didn't work. "What am I going to do?" she said. "How should I know?" I told her. "I can't go on," she said. "Yes you can," I said. "He was a **** and you're better off without him." She started crying again. "Listen, Callie," I said, "It's late and I'm in work tomorrow. Go home and get some sleep. It'll all seem better in the morning."

B. Ali's story

Sam never had any money. He didn't have a job, which didn't help. I met him yesterday and he asked if I would lend him a hundred quid. I'd lent him money before and he still owed me about two hundred and fifty pounds. I asked him what it was for. He said, "Don't ask, Ali. Just be a good friend and lend it to me." He looked worried. I wanted to help, but he was just getting deeper into trouble. I said, "Sam, I haven't got the money." I was lying and I think he knew it. "Okay," he said. "But I thought you were my friend." I said, "I am your friend and I'll help you in any way I can, but I don't think lending you more money is the best thing to do.'

Are you a good friend?

C. Sarah's story

Tania's mother died three weeks ago. I couldn't go to the funeral because I get upset at funerals, but I sent a card. We had booked a holiday together and I told her I thought she should go ahead with it because it would cheer her up. She was sad for the whole fortnight. I tried my best to get her to enjoy herself, but after four days I got fed up. We'd go to clubs and bars and she didn't want to drink and so I felt guilty getting off my head and having a good time. I told her she was being selfish. Every time we met some fellas she just sat there looking fed up and they all lost interest, so I just started going out on my own in the end.

D. Tom's story

Everything always seemed to go right for Gary. He was good-looking, sporty and clever. When we were kids we were best friends, but we lost touch. I met him last week and I could see that he was doing really well. He had a great job, a new flat and a smart car. He asked me if I fancied going out for a drink. I met him in town and he told me that he was gay. I was shocked and I didn't know what to say. I was worried that people in the bar would think I was gay too. He wanted to go for a meal. I started thinking of excuses, but then I thought I was being stupid. He was an old mate and it didn't matter what anyone thought. So I went.

▶ 3. Of the four people in the stories, who was the **best** friend and why?

▶ 4. Who was the **worst** friend and why?

▶ 5. Choose one of the stories and say how you think their friendship will develop.

▶ 6. Choose one of the four stories and say what **you** would have done.

Are you a good friend?

- ▶ 7. Think about yourself as a friend. On a scale of 1–10, where 1 is the worst friend and 10 is the best friend, give yourself a score.

.....

- ▶ 8. How could you be a better friend?

.....

Dating agencies

The final option that Sara is considering is an introduction agency. Use the information below to answer the questions that follow.

Country friends

Age group covered:	26 onwards
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£38 registration fee £88 introduction fee (8 introductions)
No meeting – all via post/phone/email	
Length of membership:	Until received 8 introductions

Paloma Jones introductions

Age group covered:	22–80
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£125
No meeting – all via post/phone/email	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	One year

Couples

Age group covered:	28–75
Total fees (inc. VAT):	Connections membership £295 Personal Matchmaker service £2,500
All members are interviewed personally.	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	Connections membership is ongoing for as long as you wish with an 'on hold' facility available.

In the city

Age group covered:	25+
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£199 per annum for Gold Membership £80 per annum for Bronze Membership
Gold members are interviewed in person.	
Bronze members are interviewed by post/phone/email	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	One year

- 1. How much will eight introductions with Country Friends cost?
-

Dating agencies

▶ 2. How much will eight introductions with Paloma Jones Introductions cost?

▶ 3. Which agency has the youngest members?

▶ 4. Assume Sara joins an agency and has 10 introductions over the course of a year. Which agency offers the best value for money?

▶ 5. If Sara stays on an agency's books for three years, which agency offers the best value for money?

Dating agencies

The final option that Sara is considering is a dating agency. Use the text below to answer the questions that follow.

Country friends

Age group covered:	26 onwards
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£50 registration fee £80 introduction fee (8 introductions)
No meeting – all via post/phone/email	
Length of membership:	Until received 8 introductions

Paloma Jones introductions

Age group covered:	22–80
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£125
No meeting – all via post/phone/email	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	One year

Couples

Age group covered:	28–75
Total fees (inc. VAT):	Connections membership £295 Personal Matchmaker service £2,500
All members are interviewed personally.	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	Connections membership is ongoing for as long as you wish with an 'on hold' facility available.

In the city

Age group covered:	25+
Total fees (inc. VAT):	£200 per annum for Gold Membership £80 per annum for Bronze Membership
Gold members are interviewed in person.	
Bronze members are interviewed by post/phone/email	
Unlimited introductions	
Length of membership:	One year

- 1. How much will eight introductions with Country Friends cost?
-

Dating agencies

▶ 2. How much will eight introductions with Paloma Jones Introductions cost?

.....

▶ 3. Which agency has the youngest members?

.....

▶ 4. Assume Sara joins an agency and has 10 introductions over a year. Which agency offers the best value for money?

.....

.....

▶ 5. If Sara stays with an agency for three years, which agency offers the best value for money?

.....

The art of conversation

At the wedding reception, the Kramers find that they are on Table 7 with some people they have never met before. Talking to people you don't know can be nerve-racking. Using positive and friendly behaviour can make both parties feel more at ease.

Read this list of behaviours and tick the boxes to say which you think are positive or negative ways to behave when talking to other people.

<i>Behaviour</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Keeping eye contact with the other person		
Drumming your fingers on the table while the other person is speaking		
Smiling at the other person		
Nodding to show you understand what the other person is saying		
Tapping your foot while the other person is speaking		
Giving 'yes' or 'no' answers to their questions		
Asking them questions		
Occasionally repeating back what the other person has said		
Looking away from the other person while they are speaking		
Talking only about yourself		
Staying silent		

The art of conversation

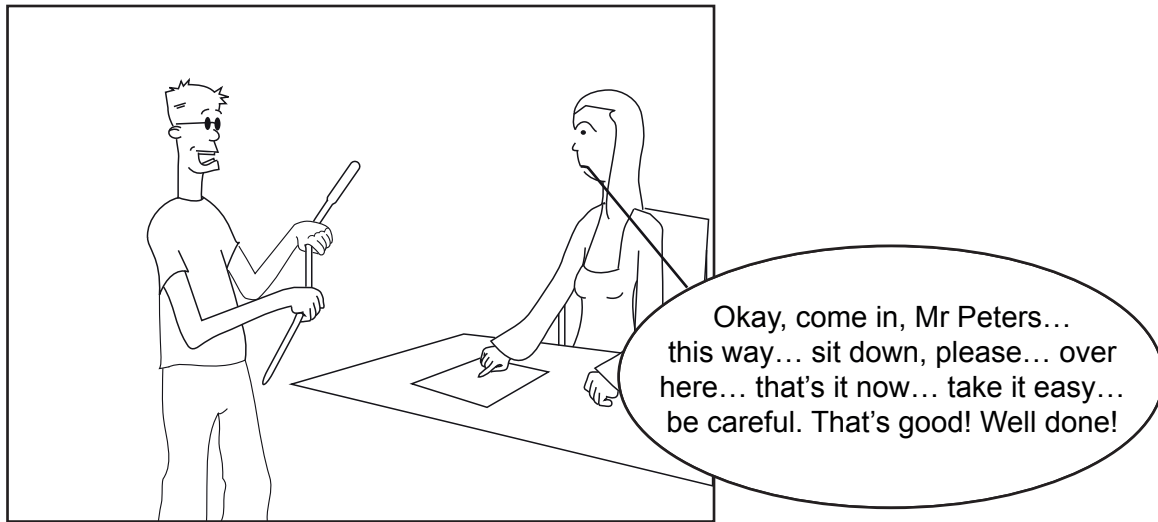
At the wedding the Kramers find that they are on Table 7 with some people they have never met before. Talking to people you don't know can be a challenge. If you can be positive and friendly both parties feel more at ease.

Read this list of actions and tick the boxes to say which you think are good or bad things to do when talking to other people.

Action	Good	Bad
Keeping eye contact with the other person		
Drumming your fingers on the table while the other person is speaking		
Smiling at the other person		
Nodding to show you understand what the other person is saying		
Tapping your foot while the other person is speaking		
Giving 'yes' or 'no' answers to their questions		
Asking them questions		
Now and then repeat what the other person has said		
Looking away from the other person while they are speaking		
Talking only about yourself		
Staying silent		

Whose disability?

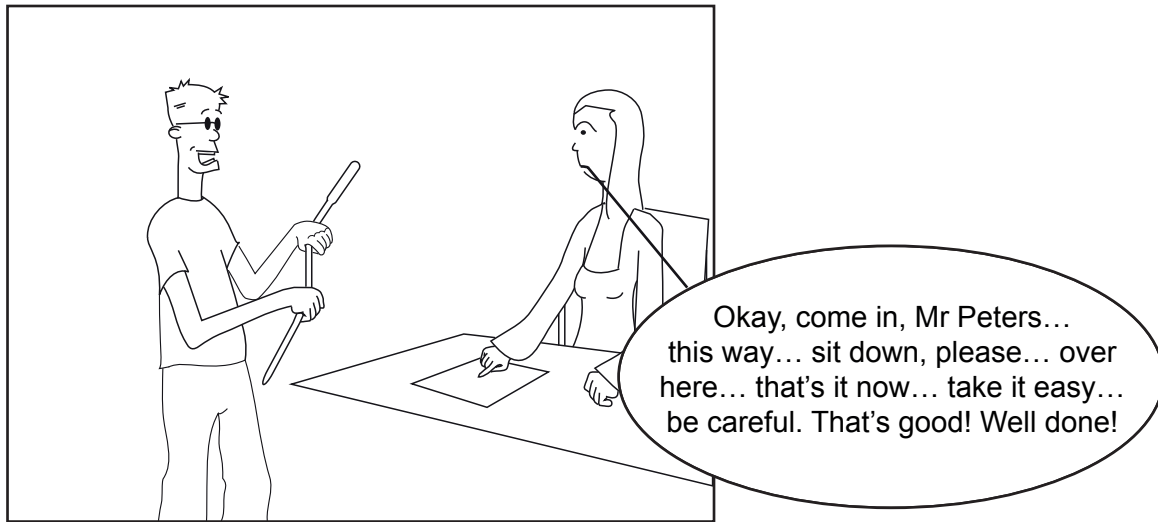
No-one had told Natalie that her next client was blind.



- ▶ 1. How is Natalie coping with this unexpected situation? Is she doing anything wrong?
.....
.....
- ▶ 2. How do you think Mr Peters is feeling?
.....
.....
- ▶ 3. Do you think Natalie could have coped better if she had been better prepared?
.....
.....
- ▶ 4. How could she have been better prepared?
.....
.....
.....
- ▶ 5. These days, people are more aware of the need to provide facilities for people who are disabled. For example, most buildings have ramps for wheelchairs and signs with large letters for people with visual impairment. However, there is also a need to think about the way we speak to people with disabilities. Sometimes they complain that they feel 'patronised'. What does this mean? Give an example.
.....
.....
.....

Whose disability?

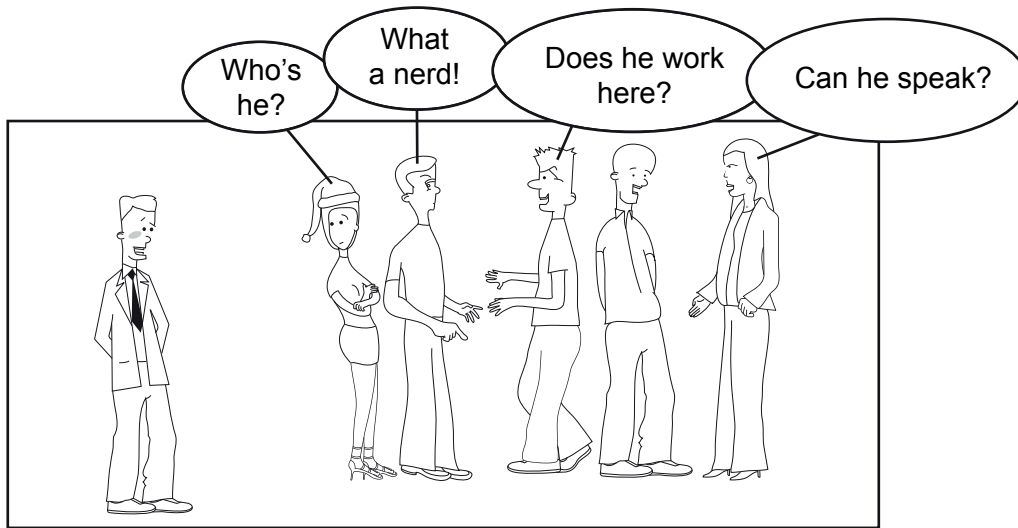
No-one had told Natalie that her next client was blind.



- ▶ 1. How is Natalie coping? Is she doing anything wrong?
.....
.....
- ▶ 2. How do you think Mr Peters is feeling?
.....
.....
- ▶ 3. Do you think Natalie could have coped better if she had been better prepared?
.....
.....
- ▶ 4. How could she have been better prepared?
.....
.....
.....
- ▶ 5. These days, people are more aware of the need to provide facilities for people who are disabled. Most buildings have ramps for wheelchairs and signs with large letters for people with visual difficulties. However, there is also a need to think about the way we speak to people with disabilities. Sometimes they say that they feel 'patronised'. What does this mean? Give an example.
.....
.....
.....

A social occasion

You have recently started work and you don't yet know many people at the company. It is the Christmas party and you want to go but you are a little nervous.



- 1. What are your worries about the party? Place a tick to show what worries you. If you have no worries just leave the column blank.

	My worry
I won't know anyone.	
I don't have a partner to take with me.	
I don't know what to wear.	
I'm not very confident in new situations.	
I won't know what to say when I meet new people.	
I can never think of anything to say.	
I talk too much.	
I always ramble on and don't make sense.	
I'm always frightened of interrupting people.	
I always end up arguing.	
I try to tell jokes and no one laughs.	
I'm boring.	
No one will understand my accent.	
Everyone else will be talking posh.	
I'll need a few drinks to relax myself but then I might be drunk.	

A social occasion

If you have any other worries or concerns write them here.

- ▶ 2. Compare what you have written and what other people in the group have written. What are the main concerns of the group?

- ▶ 3. Imagine that you have now been with the company for three years and have been to a number of social occasions. What advice would you give to a younger person who has just started work and has been invited to the retirement party for the office manager? In particular, advise them on how to speak to the people they meet at the party.

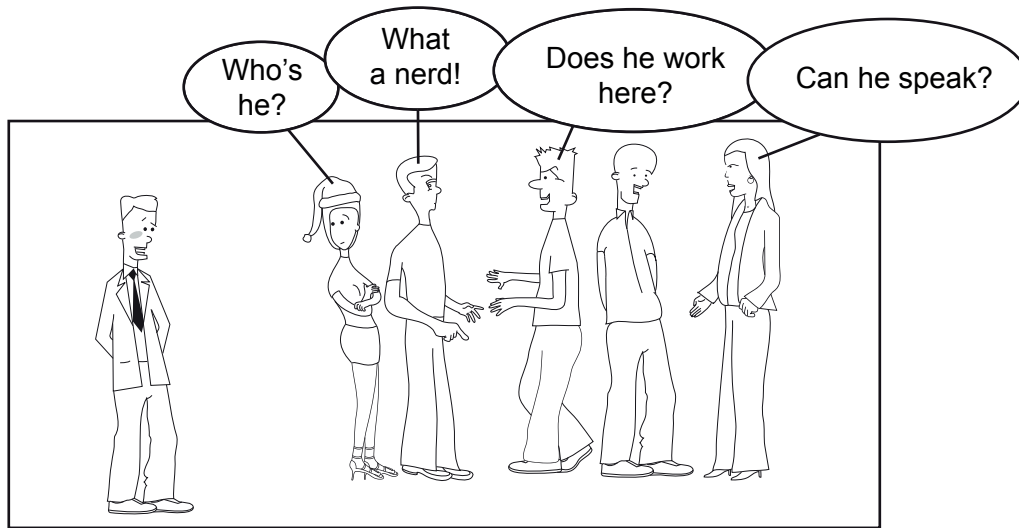
You could include some of the ideas from this suggestion box.

Have a few stiff drinks before you go.
Take a deep breath and relax.
Tell yourself that lots of people will be just as nervous as you are.
Practise introducing yourself to people.
Think of some good topics of conversation.
Don't worry about it.
Take a friend who is confident and talkative.
Don't be afraid to tell people you meet that you are nervous.
When you meet someone new, ask them about themselves.
Learn a few jokes.
Wear something loud to get yourself noticed.
Smile when you meet people.
Arrive late.
Be yourself.

A social occasion

A social occasion

You have recently started work and you don't yet know many people at the company. It is the Christmas party and you want to go but you are a little nervous.



- 1. What are your worries about the party? Place a tick to show what worries you. If you have no worries just leave the column blank.

	My worry
I won't know anyone.	
I don't have a partner to take with me.	
I don't know what to wear.	
I'm not very confident in new situations.	
I won't know what to say when I meet new people.	
I can never think of anything to say.	
I talk too much.	
I always ramble on and don't make sense.	
I'm always frightened of interrupting people.	
I always end up arguing.	
I try to tell jokes and no one laughs.	
I'm boring.	
No one will understand my accent.	
Everyone else will be talking posh.	
I'll need a few drinks to relax myself but then I might be drunk.	

A social occasion

If you have any other worries or concerns write them here.

- ▶ 2. Compare what you have written and what other people in the group have written. What are the main concerns of the group?

- ▶ 3. Imagine that you have now been with the company for three years and have been to a number of socials. What advice would you give to a younger person who has just started work and has been invited to the leaving party for the office manager? Advise them on how to speak to the people they meet at the party.

You could include some of the ideas from this box.

Have a few stiff drinks before you go.
Take a deep breath and relax.
Tell yourself that lots of people will be just as nervous as you are.
Practise introducing yourself to people.
Think of some good topics to talk about.
Don't worry about it.
Take a friend who is confident and chatty.
Don't be afraid to tell people you meet that you are nervous.
When you meet someone new, ask them about themselves.
Learn a few jokes.
Wear something loud to get yourself noticed.
Smile when you meet people.
Arrive late.
Be yourself.

A social occasion
