

Function- Invitations

When friends get together, they usually do so by an invitation from one person to another. There are several expressions that can be used when extending an invitation.

For Beginners

Beginners can memorize just one basic expression and response for invitations and begin using it immediately. The parts of the sentences in parentheses (...) can be changed to fit the situation.

Do you want to go to (... the rock concert with me)?

Accept: Sure. When?

Decline: No thanks, loud concerts give me an earache.

For Intermediate students

Once this expression is mastered students move on to using slightly different vocabulary and sentence structures to extend invitations and accept or decline them.

Are you free on (... Friday night)?

Accept: Sure, what did you have in mind?

Decline: No, I'm going to my grandmother's 80th birthday party.

Would you like to go to (... a picnic on Sunday afternoon)?

Accept: That would be great, thanks.

Decline: No can do, I have a soccer game.

How about going to (... the movies with me this Saturday)?

Accept: That sounds great. What time?

Decline: Sorry, but I've already made other plans.

I'd like to invite you to (... the dance this weekend)?

Accept: How kind of you to ask, I'd be delighted.

Decline: I'm sorry, but I have a previous engagement.



Practice

To practice, if you are studying alone, use the expressions noted above and try having conversations with yourself and invite yourself to the events listed below. This may sound silly, but the more you actually say the words (and not just think them) the more likely you will remember them when they are needed in a real conversation.

If you have a study partner, you can role play the situations by inviting him or her to the places. For more practice switch roles and do it again.

For intermediate students you can extend the conversation by asking questions about some of the items mentioned below, if appropriate.

the day and time
where they should meet
how much money it will cost
what kind of dress is required
how long the event will last
if anything special is needed to participate in the event

The events

To a natural history museum	To a lecture about finance
To an amusement park	To ballroom dancing lessons
To a formal dinner	To a friend's birthday party
To the Russian Ballet	To a horror movie
To go ice fishing on the lake	To go window shopping

Function-Talking about Schedules & Routines

People frequently talk about their daily or weekly routines and schedules, especially with family or friends. They may do so just out of curiosity or because they want to plan for some event.

For Beginners

Beginners can memorize just one basic expression and response for talking about routines and schedules and begin using it immediately. The parts of the sentences in parentheses (...) can be changed to fit the situation.

What time (... do you go to work)?

I go to work at 7:30.

For Intermediate students

Once this expression is mastered students can move on to using slightly different vocabulary and sentence structures to ask about schedules and routines.

What day (... does your wife usually go grocery shopping)?

She usually goes on Saturday.

When does (... your mother usually do the laundry)?

She usually does it on Saturday afternoons.

Where do (... you exercise)?

I go to a gym in my neighborhood.

When talking about daily schedules and routines adverbs of frequency are used to indicate how frequently things occur. Look at these common adverbs of frequency.

<u>100%</u>	<u>80%</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>0%</u>
always	usually	sometimes	seldom	never
all the time	most of the time	occasionally	rarely	not at all

How often (... do you ride the bus to work)?

I rarely ride the bus.



Practice

To practice, if you are studying alone, use the expressions noted above and try having conversations with yourself and talk about your daily schedule. This may sound silly, but the more you actually say the words (and not just think them) the more likely you will remember them when they are needed in a real conversation.

Be specific and detailed. Include what you do from the time you wake up until you go to bed, on weekdays and weekends.

If you have a study partner you can tell each other of your daily routines.



Function- Lending and Borrowing

Everyone borrows from or lends things to family or friends at times. Of course, when you ask to borrow something people may say yes or they may say no.

For Beginners

Beginners can memorize just one basic expression and response for lending or borrowing and begin using it immediately. The parts of the sentences in parentheses (...) can be changed to fit the situation.

May I borrow (... your text book)?

Yes: Sure, go ahead.

No: Sorry, but I need it to study.

For Intermediate students

Once this expression is mastered students can move on to using slightly different vocabulary and sentence structures to borrow or lend something.

Could you lend me (...a dollar)?

Yes: Of course, my pleasure.

No: Sorry, I'm broke.

Do you mind if I use (...your pen)?

Yes: Not at all, help yourself.

No: I'm sorry, but this is my lucky pen and I never let anyone use it.

Will you lend me (... your car)?

Yes: Maybe, where are you going and when will you be returning?

No: No way.

Lend and borrow are frequently used incorrectly by non-native speakers. They are very similar in meaning, but can not be used interchangeably.

It may help to think of **borrow** as to receive or take something. When using borrow, the subject of the sentence is receiving something.

Think of **lend** to mean give something. When using lend, the subject of the sentence is giving something.

Can you borrow me your book? Incorrect

Can I borrow your book? Correct

Can you lend me your book? Correct



Practice

To practice, if you are studying alone, use the expressions noted above and try having conversations with yourself about lending or borrowing the items below. This may sound silly, but the more you actually say the words (and not just think them) the more likely you will remember them when they are needed in a real conversation.

If you have a study partner you can ask each other to borrow the items.

Cell phone

Cassette player

Computer

Clock

Bicycle

Lawn mower

Dictionary

Truck

Money

Function- Expressing Obligation

When talking about schedules we often speak of obligations- things that must be done- like going to work or keeping a doctor's appointment.

For Beginners

Beginners can memorize just one basic expression for expressing obligations and begin using it immediately. The parts of the sentences in parentheses (...) can be changed to fit the situation.

What time (... do you have to be home)?

I have to (... be home by 3:00).

For Intermediate students

Once this expression is mastered students can move on to using slightly different vocabulary and sentence structures to express obligations.

I must go to (... class this morning).

He has to (... be at work by 8:00 AM).

I'm expected to (... visit my grandmother every Sunday afternoon).

I am supposed to (... deposit the stores weekly sales income in the bank on Friday afternoons,).

** 'Expected to' and 'Supposed to' are primarily used to express intentions, not absolutes. Use 'Have to' to express something definite.

Practice

To practice, if you are studying alone, use the expressions noted above and try having conversations with yourself and talk about the things that you have to do or are expected or supposed to do during the week. This may sound silly, but the more you actually say the words (and not just think them) the more likely you will remember them when they are needed in a real conversation.

If you have a study partner you can tell each other of your obligations. Your partner should continue the conversation by asking questions about when, why, and what happens if you do not do the thing.