16 Relationships

A Romantic relationships

Max is my **partner**, and we have a very good **relationship**. We've **been together** for about two years. I started to **go out with** him after I came to London. We met at my **ex-boyfriend's** house, and because Max lived near me, it was easy for us to **get to know** each other. Now Max wants us to **get married** and **have a baby**, but I'm not sure. I have friends who are happily married, but I also know married **couples** who have **separated** and **are** now **divorced**. I don't want that to happen to us.

GLOSSARY

partner	sb you have a romantic relationship with (your *boyfriend, girlfriend, wife* or *husband*)	**get to know sb**	learn more about sb and become friends
be together	be in a romantic relationship	**get married**	become husband or wife with sb
go out with sb	have a romantic relationship with sb	**have a baby**	become a new mother/father
ex-boyfriend	a person who was your boyfriend in the past ALSO **ex-girlfriend**, **ex-husband**, etc.	**couple**	two people, often in a romantic relationship
		separate	stop being together
		be divorced	married in the past but not now

SPOTLIGHT *relationship*

You have a **relationship** with somebody. It can be good or bad.

- *I have a **good relationship** with my classmates.*
- *He has a **difficult relationship** with his father.*

We often talk about **romantic relationships** with wives, boyfriends, etc.

1 Make six more phrases using words from the box.

get to together ✓ | ex- know somebody | be ✓ | get | go out boyfriend | have with somebody | romantic | a baby married | relationship

▶ be together

2 Write the words in the correct order.

▶ get / to / they / married / want They want to get married.
1 baby / last / had / a / year / they .....
2 separated / January / they / in .....
3 have / good / a / very / relationship / we .....
4 boyfriend / you / how / your / get / did / to / know .....?
5 three / together / for / they / years / were .....
6 with / six / went / him / months / I / for / out .....

3 Complete the sentences with a single word.

▶ They have a very good relationship.
1 Tom ..... married last summer, but I don't know his new ..... .
2 We ..... to know each other at university, and we've been ..... now for a year.
3 I know Tom and Lucy very well. They're a lovely ..... .
4 She went ..... with him last year, but they ..... in January.
5 Sonia is his ..... girlfriend, but they still talk to each other.
6 My parents were married for twenty years, but now they're ..... . My father has a new ....., but I don't think they're going to ..... married.

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B Friends

WHY WE LIKE
each other

Sophie: I **get on very well with** Gemma – she's great. I don't know why, because we've got very different **personalities**. We first **met** at university about six years ago, and then we **became flatmates**. If I have a problem, Gemma is the first person I go to her for **advice**. And she always gives me good advice. We don't **see** each other very often now because we live in different cities, but I'**ve known** her for quite a long time, and she will always be my **best friend**.

GLOSSARY

each other	She likes me and I like her. = We like **each other**.
get on (well) with sb	have a good relationship with sb
personality	what a person is like that makes them different from other people
meet *pt* **met**	**1** see and speak to sb for the first time **2** go to a place and wait for sb: *We're* ***meeting*** *them at 7.30.*
become	begin to be sth: ***become friends/ flatmates***
flatmate	a person you live with, but not in a romantic relationship
advice [U]	an opinion or information that you give to help sb with a problem **give (sb) advice**
see sb	talk to or visit sb
know *pt* **knew** *pp* **known**	If you **know sb**, you have met them. If you **have known sb** for a long time, you are often friends.

SPOTLIGHT *friend*

A **friend** is a person that you like and know well. Your **best friend** is your most important friend. You can also have a **close friend** (= a very good friend) or an **old friend** (= somebody you have known a long time).

4 Are the sentences the same or different? Write *S* or *D*.

▶ We met last year. / I have known her for a year. S
1 We live near each other. / We are flatmates. .....
2 We get on very well. / We have a very good relationship. .....
3 I see her every Saturday. / I visit her every Saturday. .....
4 She's my best friend. / She's a close friend. .....
5 We became friends. / We stopped being friends. .....
6 She gives me advice. / She helps me with my problems. .....

5 Complete the sentences

▶ Abigail and I soon became friends.
1 My best friend often gives me good _____.
2 Charles and Ed are good friends – they see _____ other almost every day.
3 Mia is an _____ friend – I've _____ her for many years.
4 Sammy seems to _____ on well with everyone – he's very popular.
5 I first _____ my wife when we were at university – we were only twenty.
6 I've _____ Olivia a long time, but we don't _____ each other very much now.
7 I'm _____ my friends outside the cinema at 7 o'clock.
8 Emma was just my _____ – we shared a flat for a year. Now she's my _____ friend, but we have very different _____.

6 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or ask another student.

1 Who is your best friend? _____
2 How long have you known him/her? _____
3 How and where did you first meet? _____
4 How often do you see each other? _____
5 Why do you get on well with him/her? _____
6 Do you often give each other advice? _____

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