

# Unit 5 Events

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## The office picnic

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# Entertaining

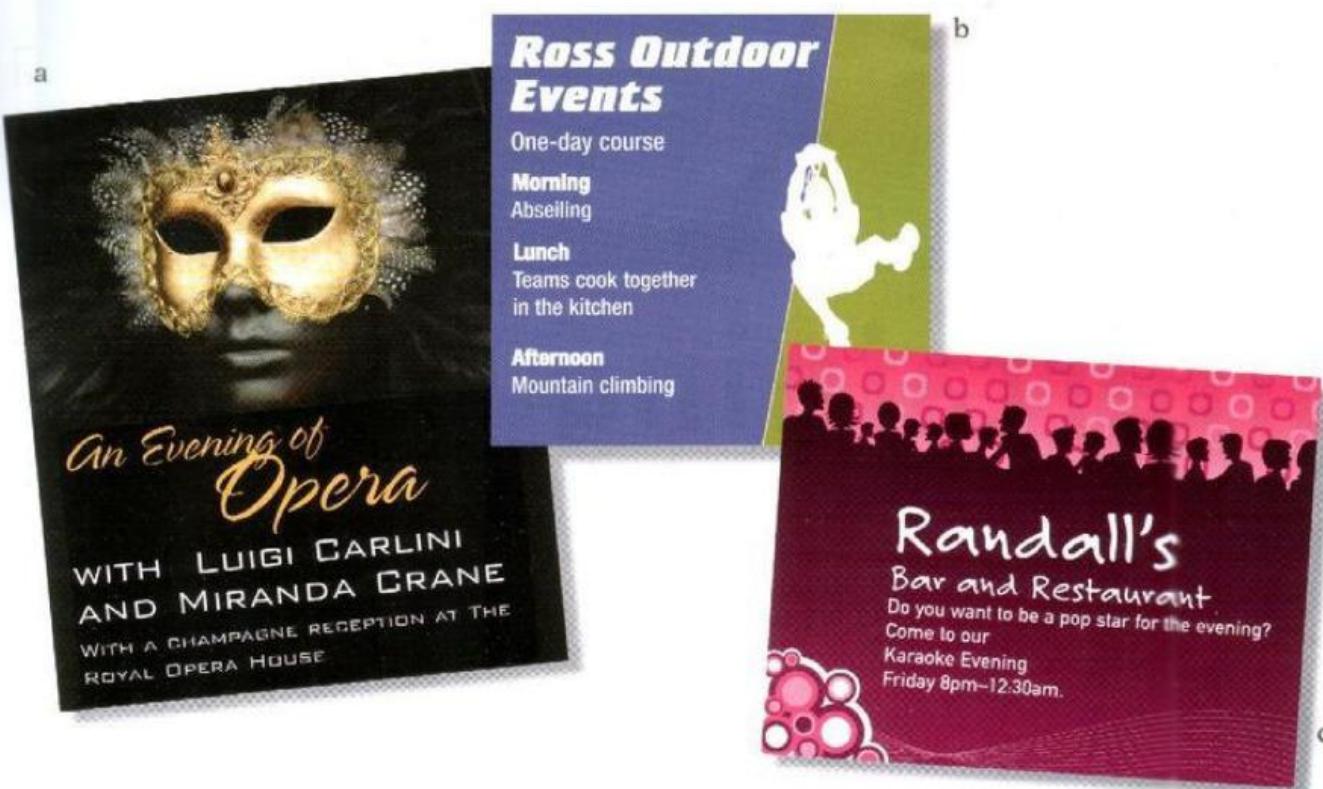


## Keynotes

Some companies organise **corporate events** to celebrate **special occasions** at work. Many companies also organise events to **entertain clients**. They give the **guests** at these events free drinks, food and entertainment.

1 Listen to the conversations 1-3 and match them with the events a-c.

2 Which events a-c are informal?



## Reading

1 Read the article on the opposite page. What can cause health and safety problems at picnics? \_\_\_\_\_

2 Are these statements true or false?

- 1 British companies don't have regular picnics. *true*
- 2 Christmas parties are sometimes formal.
- 3 At picnics, people relax, eat and play music.
- 4 In hot weather, it isn't easy to keep food warm.
- 5 Organisations with a lot of employees often use a restaurant.
- 6 Managers don't want 50 per cent of their workers to be sick the day after a picnic.

3 Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 How often do many American companies have an office picnic?
- 2 Who is invited to company picnics?
- 3 Why do staff like picnics?
- 4 What problems are there with picnics?
- 5 What kinds of food can't be in the sun too long?
- 6 What do the employees of Abel & Cole put in the office?

# The office picnic

**An office picnic can be a delicious opportunity to have fun with your colleagues**

1 The annual office picnic is a popular social event for many companies in the USA. Employees go to local parks with food and their families each summer. At the moment, company picnics aren't a regular event in Britain. But some British businesses think they could be a good opportunity for employees to socialise in an informal way.

2 Abel & Cole is a British catering company. The company has a big office picnic every year. Gary Congress organises Abel & Cole's annual picnic. 'Christmas parties are great but they are quite formal; with a picnic it's much more relaxed,' he says. Employees like picnics because they can arrive and leave when they want to. They relax, eat and play games with family and colleagues.

3 But are picnics more of a problem to organise than other events? Many people don't like insects, noisy children or bad weather – and these can all happen on a picnic. Food is probably the main health and safety concern because hot weather makes it difficult to keep food cool and edible. Some types of food, such as fish, meat and cheese, are dangerous if they are in the sun too long.

4 A catering company can deliver food to a picnic. This is useful for



companies with a large staff because it helps the food stay fresh. Managers can enjoy the picnic without worrying that half the workers may be ill the next day. Gary Congress recommends picnics as a staff social event. 'We put photos from the summer picnic all over the office and it brings back great memories.'

## Glossary

**catering company (n)** company that provides and serves food and drink at a social event

**cool (adj)** quite cold

**edible (adj)** safe to eat

**fresh (adj)** in good condition, safe to eat

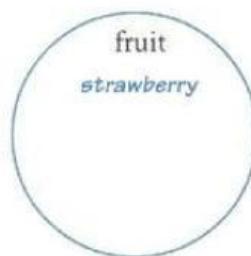
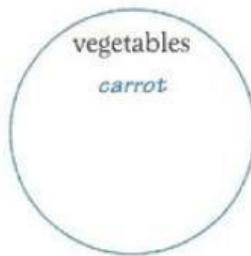
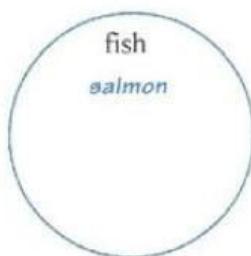
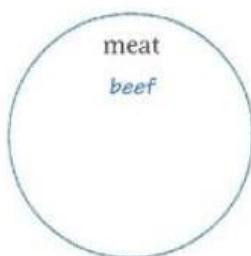
## Vocabulary 1 Food and drink

1 Match the descriptions 1–8 with words from the box.

salmon coffee orange lamb potato water onion  
chicken prawns fruit juice tea strawberry beef  
lemon carrot cod peas

- 1 a small red fruit *strawberry*
- 2 meat from a cow
- 3 British people like this drink.
- 4 an orange vegetable
- 5 a large pink sea or river fish
- 6 a vegetable that makes you cry
- 7 the animal that gives us eggs
- 8 a yellow fruit

2 Write all the words from the box above in the correct circle. Add more words to each circle.



## Vocabulary 2 Describing food

When you entertain guests, you sometimes need to explain how food is cooked. Label the pictures with the words in the box.

raw baked fried boiled roast



1 \_\_\_\_\_ potatoes

2 \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables

3 \_\_\_\_\_ chicken



4 \_\_\_\_\_ potato



5 \_\_\_\_\_ fish

Speaking Ask your partner questions to find out what food he/she likes.

*Do you like fried fish? Yes, I do.*

*Do you like roast potatoes? No, I don't.*

Listening 1

1 Listen to a conversation between a customer and a waiter in a restaurant. What does the customer order?

2 Listen again and complete the conversation with the words in the box.

I'd like      drink      salmon      recommend      would      like  
juice      certainly      order      fish      prawns      roast

Waiter: Are you ready to <sup>1</sup> order , sir?  
Customer: What do you <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
Waiter: Do you like <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
Customer: Well, I <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ most fish, but I don't like <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Waiter: I recommend the <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ . It's very good today.  
Customer: OK then, <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ salmon, please.  
Waiter: <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ you like vegetables with that?  
Customer: Yes, please. I'd like <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ potatoes and peas.  
Waiter: <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ . And would you like a <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
Customer: Yes, I'd like orange <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ , please.

Language check 1 **like and would like**

Study the examples and choose the correct words in italics in the rules below.

a *Would you like roast potatoes?*      c *Do you like music?*  
b *I'd like a cup of coffee, please.*      d *I like jazz.*

1 We use like / would like to talk about interests and preferences.  
2 We use like / would like for offers and requests.

When we use a verb after would like, we use the infinitive with to.  
We'd like **to have** lunch at 1pm. Would you like **to go** to a restaurant?

After like we use the infinitive with to or the -ing form of the verb.  
My colleagues like **to go** / **going** out together after work.



For more information, see page 159.

Practice

Match the questions 1–6 with the responses a–f.

1 Do you like football?  
2 What can I get you to eat, sir?  
3 Would you like a cup of coffee?  
4 Does he like films?  
5 When would he like to have the lunch meeting?  
6 What do Zoe and Mark like to do at the weekend?

a I'd like roast chicken, please.  
b Yes, he goes to the cinema three times a week.  
c They like to go for a long walk.  
d Yes, I like all sports.  
e Thursday at 12:30.  
f Actually, I'd like tea if that's OK.

## Language check 2 **can**

We use **can** (+ infinitive without **to**) to talk about ability. Study the examples.

- a He **can** use a computer.
- b She **can't** (cannot) speak Spanish.
- c **Can** you drive?
- d Yes, **I can**. / No, **I can't**.



For more information, see page 159.

## Listening 2

### 1 Complete the telephone conversation with **can** and **can't**.

Pete: Hi, Gina this is Pete. <sup>1</sup> Can you do the presentation on Friday? I have a conference in Berlin.

Gina: Hello, Pete. I'm afraid I <sup>2</sup> can't. I have a meeting on Friday.

Pete: That's OK. I <sup>3</sup> can ask Claude to do it.

Gina: Pete, <sup>4</sup> can you finish the report before you go to the conference?

Pete: I'm sorry, I <sup>5</sup> can't. I leave for the airport in 20 minutes.

Gina: Well, <sup>6</sup> can you email the information? I need it for the meeting.

Pete: Yes, no problem.

Gina: Thanks. So, the conference is in Berlin. <sup>7</sup> Can you speak German?

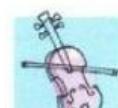
Pete: No, I <sup>8</sup> can't, but that's OK – the conference is in English!

### 2 Listen and check. Then practise the conversation with a partner.

#### Practice

### 1 Tick (✓) the things that you can do and put a cross (✗) next to the things that you can't do.

- 1 speak more than two languages
- 2 play a musical instrument
- 3 name six Asian countries
- 4 spell my partner's name in English
- 5 play a sport
- 6 say the alphabet in English in less than 15 seconds



### 2 Work with a partner. Take turns to ask and answer questions using the phrases above.

*Can you speak more than two languages? Yes, I can. / No, I can't.*

### 3 Use full sentences to tell your partner about the things in exercise 1.

*I can't speak more than two languages.*

*I can play a musical instrument.*

Listening 3

1 Listen to two people having a business lunch. Who is the guest, Louisa or Philip? \_\_\_\_\_

2 Listen again and tick (✓) the phrases above that the speakers use.

3 Work with a partner. Put the extract in the correct order. Listen and check and then practise the extract.

- Thanks. What do you recommend, Louisa?
- Yes, of course.
- Oh, OK. No problem.
- Well, the chicken supreme is excellent here.
- Could I have a glass of water, please?
- I'm afraid not. It's a non-smoking restaurant.
- Would you like something to drink?
- Great. I'd like the chicken. Can I smoke here?