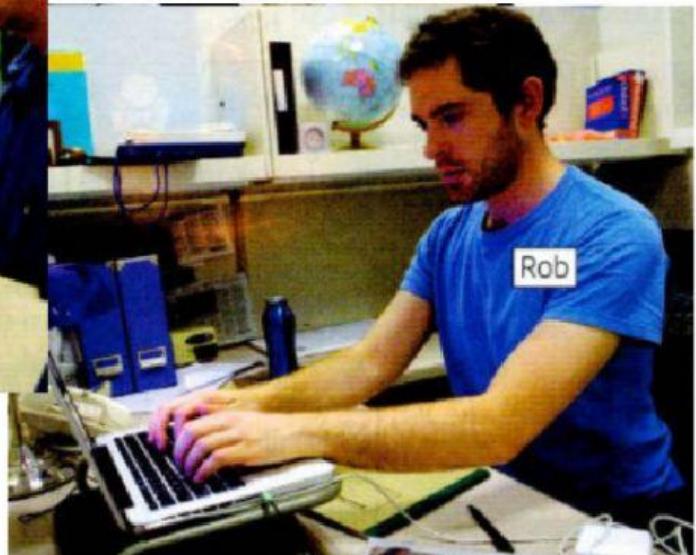
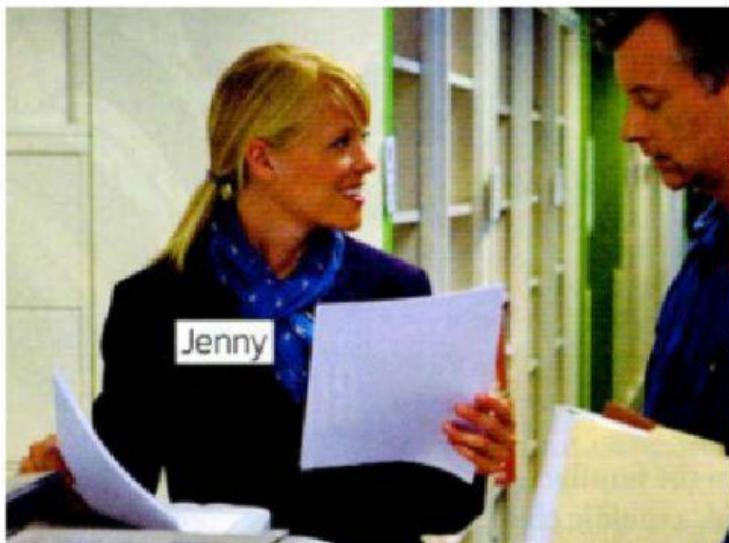


Practical English Meeting the parents



Watch or listen to Jenny and Rob talking. Complete the gaps.

Jenny Zielinski and Rob Walker work for a ¹ _____ called New York. ²⁴ ^{seven}. She's American and he's ² _____. Rob came to New York a few ³ _____ ago. He had met Jenny when she went to ⁴ _____ on a work trip. They got on very well, and he was offered a job for a month in ⁵ _____. Later he was offered a ⁶ _____ job. Jenny helped Rob ⁷ _____ an apartment, and they are enjoying life in the USA, although Rob misses his friends and ⁸ _____.

 **British and American English**
apartment = American English
flat = British English

2 **REACTING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY**

a  **1 29** Watch or listen to Jenny introducing Rob to her parents. What bad news does Rob have for Jenny? What good news does Jenny have for her parents?

b Watch or listen again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false). Correct the F sentences.

- 1 Rob left the chocolates at the office.
- 2 Rob's desk is usually very tidy.
- 3 It's the second time that Rob has met Jenny's parents.
- 4 Sally has prepared a big dinner.
- 5 Jenny's new job is Managing Director.
- 6 Jenny is going to be Rob's manager.



c (1 30)) Look at some extracts from the conversation. Can you remember any of the missing words? Watch or listen and check.

- 1 Jenny Don't forget the chocolates.
Rob OK. Oh ____!
Jenny I don't ____ it. Don't tell me you forgot them?
Rob I think they're still on my desk.
Jenny ____ kidding.
- 2 Jenny Mom, I'm really sorry – we bought you some chocolates, but we left them at the office.
Sally What a ____ mind.
- 3 Jenny But I also have some good news.
Sally ____? What's that?
- 4 Sally So you've got a promotion? ____ fantastic!
Harry That's great ____!
- 5 Sally Let's go and have dinner.
Jenny What a ____ idea!

1 31) Watch or listen and repeat the phrases in the chart below. Copy the rhythm and intonation.

REACTING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY

What you say when you hear...

something surprising	You're kidding. I don't believe it.
something interesting	Really?
some good news	How fantastic! That's great news! What a great idea!
some bad news	Oh no! What a pity. Never mind.

How + adjective, What + noun

We often use *How + adjective* or *What + noun* to respond to what people say.

How interesting! How awful! How amazing!

What a pity! What a good idea! What terrible news!

a  32)) Watch or listen to the after dinner conversation. Does the evening end well or badly?

b Watch or listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 What university did Jenny go to?
- 2 Is Harry impressed by Rob's job? Why (not)?
- 3 What does Harry like doing in his free time?
- 4 Who are most of the photos in the dining room of?
- 5 Who are Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Wynton Marsalis?
- 6 What surprises Harry about Rob?