

## 2 Listen to the conversations (1-4). Match them with the situations (a-d)

Conversation 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Conversation 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Conversation 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Conversation 4 \_\_\_\_\_

- a. start a conversation with a person you don't know at a party?
- b. introduce yourself to a new member of staff or a new student in your class?
- c. start a conversation with a friend you haven't seen for a long time?
- d. talk to the person standing next to you at the bus stop or at the check-out?

## 3 Look at the four conversation openers. Do they follow the advice in the tip sheet in exercise 1? Yes/No

- a Fancy meeting you here! How are things? \_\_\_\_\_
- b Excuse me. Do you know what time it is? \_\_\_\_\_
- c Hi, you must be Ruben. I've heard a lot about you. \_\_\_\_\_
- d Great party, isn't it? \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 Match the responses (1-4) with the conversation openers (a-d) in exercise 3. Write a, b, c or d.

- 1 Hi, you must be Steve. I've heard a lot about you, too! \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Hi! How are you? You're looking great! \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Yes, it really is. I haven't been to their house before. It's really nice! \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 No, I don't, sorry. But there's a clock over there. \_\_\_\_\_

## 5 Answer these questions

**1. Who does Sue meet unexpectedly in the conversation?** - John / Kim / Jay / Ruben

**2. Why is John surprised to see Sue?**

- He didn't recognize her.
- He forgot to invite her.
- He didn't expect to meet her there.
- He thought she was on vacation.

**3. What time is it when the man asks the woman?** - 3:15 / 2:45 / 4:30 / 5:00

**4. Why does the man think the transportation might be late?**

- Because of heavy traffic / Due to a broken clock / The woman is unsure / The exhibition is boring

**5. What is Jay's profession?** - Teacher / Receptionist / Accountant / Manager

**6. How long has Jay been in his current position?**

- Around 3 years / Forever / A few months / He doesn't mention

**7. How do Alison and Claire know each other?**

- They are cousins / They work together / They are neighbors / They went to school together

**8. What is Claire's job role at her workplace?**

- Teacher / Receptionist / Accountant / Manager

## How to start a conversation

- Always approach the person you want to talk to with a smile.
- Use a question to start the conversation, but don't make it too direct.
- Better still, comment on something in your surroundings.
- Or pay the person you're talking to a genuine compliment (for example, "Where did you get your T-shirt? I love it!").
- To keep the conversation going, use follow-up questions or introduce a new topic.