

How to survive at a party...

(when you don't know anybody!)

Has this ever happened to you? You arrive at a party or wedding reception where you don't know anybody. Everybody there seems to know each other. What can you do? Here are five simple tips.

- Don't stand in the corner. You need ¹ _____ *to be* positive. Find somebody you think you would like ² _____ and go and introduce yourself.
- Try ³ _____ impersonal questions like 'I love your bag. Where did you get it?' That will help ⁴ _____ a conversation.
- Try ⁵ _____ the conversation. When you are nervous, it's very easy ⁶ _____ about yourself all the time. Nobody wants ⁷ _____ to your life story when they've only just met you.
- Smile, smile, smile. Use your body-language ⁸ _____ a positive, friendly impression. That way people will want ⁹ _____ to you.
- If you want ¹⁰ _____ from a really boring person, say that you are going to the bar ¹¹ _____ another drink or that you need ¹² _____ to the bathroom. Don't come back!

2 GRAMMAR uses of the infinitive (with *to*)

a Read the article about parties. Complete the five rules with an infinitive

to ask to-be not to dominate to escape to get to talk
to give to go to listen to meet to start to talk

b Read the article again and then cover it. Can you remember the tips?

c Match the examples A–C from the text with rules 1–3.

- A It's very easy **to talk** about yourself all the time.
B Say that you're going to the bar **to get** another drink.
C Try **to ask** impersonal questions.

Use the infinitive (with *to*)...

- 1 after some verbs (e.g. *want, try, etc.*)
2 after adjectives
3 to say why you do something.

5A

a Complete with *to* + a verb.

I'm planning to have a holiday next month.

do not drive go learn leave not make meet

- 1 A Hi, I'm Dagmara.
B I'm Renata. Nice _____ you.
2 What do you want _____ this evening?
3 I need _____ to the bank. I don't have any money.
4 Try _____ a noise. Your father's asleep.
5 I'd really like _____ a new language.
6 Be careful _____ too fast on the way home.
7 She's decided _____ her husband.

b Match the sentence halves.

- They want to go to Australia **D** A to celebrate getting the job.
1 He's going to have a party **B** to get some petrol.
2 You'll need a visa **C** to book our tickets.
3 Don't forget to phone the restaurant **D** to visit their family there.
4 I stopped at the garage **E** to tell them where we are.
5 She's gone to the supermarket **F** to go to China.
6 I went to the travel agent's **G** to book a table.
7 I'll send them a text message **H** to get some food for tonight.