

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Arranging to Meet

## Section 1: Warm-up

Discuss the following questions before listening to the conversation:

- How do you usually organise a get-together when everyone in your friend group has a packed schedule?
- When somebody suggests a time or activity that does not suit you, what polite phrases do you use in English to say no and propose an alternative?
- Have you ever had to rearrange plans multiple times before finally finding a slot that worked? What happened?

## Section 2: Vocabulary in Context

Match each idiom or expression from the recording (**1-5**) with its correct definition (**A-E**). Write the appropriate letter in each box.

| Expression           | Definition                                                      |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Shoot!            | A. Hoping for good luck or a favourable outcome                 |
| 2. Diary             | B. A person whose job is to sell or rent houses and flats       |
| 3. Estate agent      | C. Go ahead, I am listening and ready                           |
| 4. The evening's out | D. A book or digital calendar used to record appointments       |
| 5. Fingers crossed   | E. That particular time is completely impossible or unavailable |



### Listening Tip: Tracking Shifting Arrangements

As you listen, make a quick note of each day and time, then link it to the person's activity. Notice contrast words such as *but* and *sorry* because they often signal that a suggested time will not work. For task 1, tick only information stated in the recording, not a detail you can guess. On the second listen, check each choice against the speakers' exact words.

**Task 1:** Listen to the conversation between Gary and Mike. Mark **(x)** the **five** aspects that are mentioned in the recording. There are **three extra** aspects you will not use.

- [ ] **1.** The exact arrival time of Gary's train on Friday evening.
- [ ] **2.** The street address and monthly rent of the flat Gary intends to visit.
- [ ] **3.** The professional reason why Mike is currently attending Spanish classes.
- [ ] **4.** The title of the theatrical production Mike is attending on Saturday evening.
- [ ] **5.** Mike's lunchtime engagement with a family member on Saturday.
- [ ] **6.** Gary's core reason for relocating back to the big city.
- [ ] **7.** The exact price of a full English breakfast at the station café.
- [ ] **8.** The final agreed time and location for the two friends to meet on Sunday morning.

**Task 2:** Listen again and choose the best option (**A**, **B**, **C**, or **D**) for each question.

**1.** When Gary asks Mike if he has some free time, Mike responds with "*Shoot!*" What is the communicative **function** of this phrase?

- |                                              |                                   |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>A)</b> To express sudden irritation       | <b>B)</b> To invite Gary to speak |
| <b>C)</b> To decline the invitation politely | <b>D)</b> To ask Gary to hurry up |

**2.** Why is Saturday afternoon **unsuitable** for a get-together?

- |                                                     |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>A)</b> Mike has to attend a language lesson      | <b>B)</b> Mike is having his hair cut        |
| <b>C)</b> Gary is inspecting a prospective property | <b>D)</b> Gary is catching a train back home |

**3.** What is Mike's **attitude** towards Gary's decision to move back to the city?

- |                                        |                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>A)</b> Enthusiastic and unsurprised | <b>B)</b> Sceptical and concerned  |
| <b>C)</b> Indifferent and detached     | <b>D)</b> Envious and disappointed |

**4.** What modification does Gary request regarding the Sunday breakfast arrangement?

- |                                                       |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A)</b> Changing the venue to a nearby coffee house | <b>B)</b> Bringing his sister along for the meal |
| <b>C)</b> Pushing the meeting back by half an hour    | <b>D)</b> Having breakfast earlier in the day.   |

**5.** Which statement best summarises the **gist** of the entire conversation?

- |                                                                                                          |                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A)</b> Two colleagues negotiate a business trip to Spain despite conflicting working hours.           | <b>B)</b> Two friends persist through conflicting commitments to find a brief window to catch up. |
| <b>C)</b> Gary persuades a reluctant friend to assist him with viewing riverside flats over the weekend. | <b>D)</b> Mike advises Gary on how to balance a demanding career with weekend social obligations. |