

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. |