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People in my life

Reading

1 Read the article on page 11 quickly. What is it mainly about?

- a ways to make friends
- b friendship and adults
- c why children lose friends

2 Read the article again. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Maria has many new friends. T F
- 2 Maria doesn't go out much. T F
- 3 Emil plays a team sport. T F
- 4 Emil doesn't like the people on his sports team. T F
- 5 Magali doesn't have any close friends. T F
- 6 Magali enjoys meeting new people. T F

3 Find these words (1–4) in the article. Decide if they are a noun, an adjective, or a verb. Then match the words with the definitions (a–d).

- 1 challenging _____
- 2 takes up _____
- 3 guys _____
- 4 socializing _____

- a an informal word for men or boys
- b spending time with friends
- c uses
- d very difficult

4 Each person in the article gives a reason why it's difficult or easy to make new, close friends. Read the article again and underline the reasons Maria, Emil, and Magali give.

5 Read the sentences and choose the correct reason (a, b, or c).

1 Maria doesn't have any new friends because she _____.

- a has a baby
- b has a large family
- c is a student

2 Emil doesn't have many close friends on his team because he _____.

- a doesn't like the other players
- b doesn't share personal things with them
- c isn't interested in sports

3 Magali has several close friends because she _____.

- a is a funny person
- b is friendly
- c is interesting

Making new friends—is it harder for adults?

Every year, when children go back to school, they see old friends, lose friends, and make new friends. But for adults, making new friends is not as easy. It's actually challenging. According to author and psychologist Robin Dunbar, most adults have about 150 people they know socially, but only three to five very close friends. We asked different people: "Is it hard to make new friends, and why?"



"Yes, it is. I have two or three old friends from school, but I don't have any new friends. I have a baby boy who takes up all my time now. I can't go out and do things. That's why it's not easy to make new friends." *Maria, Italy*

"I think it's hard. I know the guys on my soccer team. We play every week, and sometimes we go out together. I like them! But I don't think they are my close friends. Maybe the reason is that we don't talk about personal things, just sports." *Emil, Czech Republic*



"It's not that hard. I have six or seven very close friends, because I'm a very friendly person. I like meeting new people and socializing. I ask questions, and I show interest in the other person. I don't think it's necessary to be a very interesting or funny person—you only need to be a good listener." *Magali, India*

Grammar

Object pronouns

1 Write the object pronoun for each subject pronoun below (1–6).

1 I _____ 4 it _____

2 you _____ 5 we _____

3 he _____ 6 they _____

2 Circle the correct pronouns to complete the conversations.

1 A: Where is Ying? I want to talk to ¹her / she.

B: ²He's / She's over there.

2 A: Look at those shoes! Do you like ³it / them?

B: Yes, but ⁴them / they are a bit expensive.

3 A: Can ⁵me / I speak to Dan, please?

B: Sorry, ⁶he / him is busy right now.

4 A: Juan and I are going out. Do you want to come with ⁷him / us?

B: Sorry, I have a lot of homework. I need to finish ⁸it / them tonight.

2 Complete the paragraph below with the simple present form of the verbs in parentheses.



These are two very important people in my life: my sons Oscar and Nico! Oscar ¹_____ (live) with us. He ²_____ (not have) a job right now, but he ³_____ (help) us around the house—a lot! Nico ⁴_____ (not live) with us anymore. He ⁵_____ (work) as a teacher. We ⁶_____ (not see) him very often—he ⁷_____ (go) to a lot of conferences. My sons ⁸_____ (be) wonderful people. They ⁹_____ (mean) a lot to me.

Listening

1  Listen to four short conversations and choose the correct option (a, b, or c).

1 What does Jin want for his birthday?



2 Which photo are the speakers talking about?



3 What does the woman think of the gift?



4 How does Stephanie feel about the photo?



Grammar

Demonstratives

2 Circle the correct option to complete the conversations.

1 A: Look at *these / this* photo!

B: You look great!

2 A: *These / This* books are for you.

B: Oh, thank you!

3 A: I can't find my glasses.

B: Are *that / those* your glasses?

4 A: Who's *that / these* girl?

B: It's my cousin, Sarah.