

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?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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