

# Friendship

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## Activity 1

*Read the following questions and use them to begin a conversation with your partner.*

1. Do you think friends are more important than family these days? Why/not?
2. Do you agree with the following humorous quotation?  
'A friend is someone who knows all about you....and still likes you!'
3. Do you think that friends should have a lot in common? Is it important to have the same nationality, background, opinions, taste, financial status, religious beliefs etc?

## Activity 2

*Use the following words to fill the spaces below. Then make questions from the statements and use them to start a conversation with your partner.*

**friendless    unfriendly    friendship    environmentally-friendly**  
**friendly    user-friendly    fair-weather friend    friendly fire**

1. I think English teachers have to be very ..... It's part of their job to be nice to students.
2. I know someone who is very ..... Every time I try to talk to him/her s/he just looks at me and walks away!
3. I think having a platonic ..... with a member of the opposite sex is impossible. Men and women cannot be true friends.
4. I can't imagine anything worse than being ..... People who don't have friends must be very lonely.
5. I have a ..... S/he is only my friend when everything is OK; if I have any problems s/he doesn't contact me until everything is OK again. S/he never offers to help me.
6. I think computers are very ..... It's really easy to learn to use them.
7. I think the army should financially compensate the families of soldiers who are killed by ..... It seems very unfair to be killed by your own side.
8. I don't think cars are very ..... They pollute the atmosphere and contribute to smog.

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## Activity 3

*Read the questions and use them to begin a conversation with your partner.*

1. Who is your best friend? Why is s/he your best friend?
2. What qualities do you look for in a friend? Which of these qualities do you think is the most important? Do you look for the same qualities in a best friend or do you want something extra in your closest friend?
3. Who was your first friend at school? Why did s/he become your best friend? How long did the friendship last? Who were your friends before you went to school? Did you have a particular toy that was your friend? Do you still have it? Why/not?
4. Did you have any imaginary friends as a child? When did you grow out of them?
5. Have you lost contact with any good friends? What stops you getting back in contact?
6. How difficult is it to maintain a friendship? Can a friendship last a lifetime?
7. Have you ever fallen out with your friends? How did you make it up?
8. Do you prefer going on holiday with your family or your friends? Do you think it is a good idea to go on holiday with friends? Why/not?
9. What are the advantages of having a pen-pal or an e-pal of a different nationality? Do you have a pen-pal or an e-pal? Would you like one?

## Activity 4

*Do you think men and women can be platonic friends? Go to the Forum at **EnglishClub.com** and post your opinion there. Find 5 people who agree with you. Do they agree with you for the same reasons?*

## Activity 5

*Go to the Forum at **EnglishClub.com** and find five people who disagree with you. Are their reasons persuasive? Are your reasons persuasive? Can you persuade anyone to change his/her mind?*

## Activity 6

*Conduct a survey on the Forum at **EnglishClub.com**: do people in general think that platonic friendship between the sexes is possible or not? Report your findings back to your class. Are the results of your survey the same as the other students?*

## Activity 7

*Have you ever seen the film 'When Harry met Sally'? This film is about a man and a woman who have a platonic friendship. To what extent do you think this film reflects real-life relationships? Why not try to see it in the original language?*

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