

Invitations in English: Invite, Accept, Refuse and Suggest

Level: A2

Inviting a person

Are you free on Saturday?	Ask it to see if a person has time on a day.	"Are you free on Saturday?" "Yes, I am."
Would you like to come to my party?	Ask it for a polite invitation.	"Would you like to come to my party?" "Yes, I'd love to!"
Do you want to go to the cinema?	Ask it to invite a friend in an easy way.	"Do you want to go to the cinema?" "Sure!"
Why don't we have lunch together?	Say it to suggest an idea for you and another person.	"Why don't we have lunch together?" "Good idea."
Let's go to the park.	Say it to suggest an idea for you and other people.	"It's sunny. Let's go to the park. " "Okay!"
How about a coffee after class?	Say it to suggest a thing to do or to eat.	"How about a coffee after class?" "Great."
I'm having a party on Friday. Can you come?	Say it to tell a person about your plan and invite them.	"I'm having a party on Friday. Can you come?" "I think so!"

Saying yes

Yes, I'd love to.	Say it to accept an invitation with would you like.	"Would you like to have dinner with us?" " Yes, I'd love to. "
Great idea!	Say it when you like a suggestion.	"Let's go to the beach." " Great idea! "
That sounds good.	Say it to accept a plan.	"Dinner at eight?" " That sounds good. "
That sounds fun!	Say it when the plan is interesting for you.	"We're going to dance tonight." " That sounds fun! "
I'm free on Saturday.	Say it when you have time on a day.	"Are you busy on Saturday?" "No, I'm free on Saturday. "
Thanks for inviting me.	Say it to thank a person for an invitation.	"See you at seven!" " Thanks for inviting me. "

Saying no in a polite way

Sorry, I can't.	Say it for a short, polite no.	"Do you want to play football?" " Sorry, I can't. "
I'd love to, but I'm busy.	Say it when you like the idea but you don't have time.	"Would you like to come?" " I'd love to, but I'm busy. "
I'm afraid I can't come.	Say it for a polite and formal no.	"Can you come on Friday?" " I'm afraid I can't come. "

Thanks for asking, but I'm working.	Say it to refuse and give your reason.	"Thanks for asking, but I'm working." "That's okay."
I'm going to visit my parents.	Say it to give a reason: you have another plan.	"Are you free on Sunday?" "No, I'm going to visit my parents."
Maybe another time.	Say it to refuse today and keep the door open.	"Maybe another time." Thanks!" "Of course."
I'll let you know.	Say it when you can't say yes or no now.	"Can you come?" "Maybe. I'll let you know."

Making a plan

What time do we meet?	Ask it to decide the time.	"What time do we meet?" "At six."
Let's meet at six.	Say it to suggest a time.	"Let's meet at six." "Perfect."
Where do we meet?	Ask it to decide the place.	"Where do we meet?" "In front of the cinema."
What are you going to do on Sunday?	Ask it about a person's plan.	"What are you going to do on Sunday?" "Nothing special."
If it's sunny, we can go to the beach.	Say it to make a plan that depends on the weather.	"If it's sunny, we can go to the beach." "Good idea."
If it rains, let's stay at home.	Say it to make another plan for bad weather.	"If it rains, let's stay at home." "Okay."
See you on Saturday!	Say it to end a conversation when you have a plan.	"Bye, Tom! See you on Saturday!"

Exercise 1: Match the Phrase and the Situation

Match each phrase with the situation.

1. Would you like to come to my party? → _____
2. Great idea! → _____
3. I'd love to, but I'm busy. → _____
4. Maybe another time. → _____
5. What time do we meet? → _____
6. Let's go to the park. → _____

You decide the time of a plan. You invite a person in a polite way. You like a suggestion. You like the invitation but you can't go. You say no today and hope to go another day. You suggest an idea to friends.

Exercise 2: What Do You Say?

Choose the best phrase for each situation.

7. You want to invite a friend to the cinema. What do you say?
a) Do you want to go to the cinema? b) Sorry, I can't. c) See you on Saturday!

8. "Would you like to have dinner with us?" "___"
a) Yes, I'd love to. b) Would you like to? c) Let's go.
9. You can't go to a party because you are working. What do you say?
a) Thanks for asking, but I'm working. b) Great idea! c) Are you free on Saturday?
10. "Can you come on Friday?" "___" (You don't know if you can go.)
a) I'll let you know. b) I'd love to. c) Let's go to the park.
11. "Let's go to the beach on Sunday." "___" (You like the idea.)
a) Great idea! b) I'm afraid I can't come. c) Nice to meet you.
12. "___ on Saturday?" "Yes, I am."
a) Are you free b) Do you free c) Are you freedom
13. You want to say sorry in a formal way: you can't come. What do you say?
a) I'm afraid I can't come. b) Why don't we come? c) That sounds fun!

Exercise 3: Complete the Dialogue

Type the missing word.

14. "___ you like to come to my party?" "Yes, I'd love to!"
15. "Why ___ we have lunch together?" "Good idea."
16. "Let's ___ to the park." "Okay!"
17. "I'd love to, ___ I'm busy."
18. "If it ___, let's stay at home." (r...)
19. "What time do we ___?" "At six." (m...)

Answer key

Exercise 1: Match the Phrase and the Situation

1. Would you like to come to my party? → You invite a person in a polite way.
2. Great idea! → You like a suggestion.
3. I'd love to, but I'm busy. → You like the invitation but you can't go.
4. Maybe another time. → You say no today and hope to go another day.
5. What time do we meet? → You decide the time of a plan.
6. Let's go to the park. → You suggest an idea to friends.

Exercise 2: What Do You Say?

7. a) Do you want to go to the cinema?
8. a) Yes, I'd love to.
9. a) Thanks for asking, but I'm working.
10. a) I'll let you know.
11. a) Great idea!
12. a) Are you free
13. a) I'm afraid I can't come.

Exercise 3: Complete the Dialogue

14. Would
15. don't
16. go
17. but
18. rains
19. meet