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FRIENDSHIP



READING

Before You Read

Most people have old school photos or address books that remind them of their old friends.



Think for a minute or two about a friend you remember well but haven't seen for a long time. Tell another student

- when you last saw him/her.
- what he/she was doing then.
- what he/she was like.
- where he/she is now. (Guess if you don't know.)
- if you would like to get in touch with him / her again. (Why? / Why not?)

Reading Text

Read the texts and do the tasks that follow.

A

John is an American eleventh grader. The following are his opinions on "friendship" during his school years.

- In eighth grade, your idea of a good friend was the person who helped you pack up your stuffed animals and old soccer stuff, but didn't laugh at you when you were finished and broke out into tears.
- In ninth grade, your idea of a good friend was the person who stood beside you through thick and thin and no matter even though you were the biggest loser ever.
- In tenth grade, your idea of a good friend was the person who let you cheat off them during a math test, even though you both ended up in detention every day for two months.

B

Having a best friend to confide in can bring a positive effect on our emotional health. An evening out with the closest friend may be the best guarantee of a good time. In fact, our best friend can prevent us from developing serious psychological problems such as depression and anxiety.

Best friendship evolves with time – we cannot go out and pick our best friend. We become friends with people who share common interests – at school or through hobbies, for example.

Best friends have usually known each other for years and stuck together through good and bad times. If you do not have one, perhaps you are being too distant from people, or focusing too much on your work.

- a) Match the grades with the opinions. Then write full sentences. Begin your sentences like this: *In eighth grade, your idea of a good friend is someone who ...*

Grades	Opinions on a Good Friend
1. Eighth	a. let you copy his/her paper in an exam
2. Ninth	b. be on your side through good and bad times
3. Tenth	c. pack up toys and old stuff; empathize with you in bad times

- b) Check (✓) whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F) according to text B. Then correct the false sentences.

	T	F
1. A close friend shares joy and sadness with us.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Close friends don't need to share common interests.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. We can go out and choose a good friend easily.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. We often have satisfaction being with a close friend.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. An unsociable person may not have a close friend.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- c) Complete the sentences. Use words from the above texts.

- Being scolded by his mother, the child _____.
- Those students were sent to the _____ room for their cheating at the exam.
- Lack of interest is a _____ of failure.
- He tried to _____ his parents that he had not taken part in a motorbike race.
- To _____ means to develop gradually.

- d) Work in pairs. Discuss the answers to these questions.

- What is your own idea of a good friend?
- "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Explain the proverb.



LISTENING

a) Read the list below and find five words which best describe you. Check (✓) the words and add more of your own. Then discuss your list with a partner.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> athletic | <input type="checkbox"/> lazy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> reserved | <input type="checkbox"/> practical | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fat | <input type="checkbox"/> skinny | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> enthusiastic | <input type="checkbox"/> relaxed | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> stout | <input type="checkbox"/> sensitive | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> romantic | <input type="checkbox"/> dynamic | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> late | <input type="checkbox"/> punctual | _____ |

b) You're going to listen to a letter from Jack, Sinh's pen pal, writing about Mai Tran, his new Vietnamese friend, living in Sacramento, California. Listen and check (✓) what is true about Mai.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> reserved | <input type="checkbox"/> sociable |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> well-dressed | <input type="checkbox"/> casually dressed |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> punctual | <input type="checkbox"/> late |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> conservative | <input type="checkbox"/> enthusiastic |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> practical | <input type="checkbox"/> sympathetic |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> athletic | <input type="checkbox"/> skinny |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> attractive | <input type="checkbox"/> boring |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> sensitive | <input type="checkbox"/> indifferent |

c) Listen again and answer the following questions.

1. On what occasion did Jack meet Mai Tran?

2. Where is Mai Tran going this summer?

d) Work in pairs. Discuss what your decision would be if you were Jack and explain the reasons.



SPEAKING

Making Friends



a) Work in pairs. Check (✓) the expressions that you may use to start a conversation in a multi-school party.

- What are friends for?
- Hi! My name's ...
- Hello! Have we met before?
- It's a great party, isn't it?
- Hi! You look familiar. Have you been in Grape County School?
- I don't think we've met. My name's Ali.
- Haven't I seen you at Alice's party?
- You're from Malaysia, aren't you?

b) Work in pairs. Complete the dialogues. Then practice them.

1. Sinh: (1)_____ Sinh, by the way.
Susan: And I'm Susan. Hi!
Sinh: Hi! (2)_____ one of these cheese biscuits. They're really tasty.
Susan: Thanks. Mm! (3)_____ good, (4)_____? (5)_____ something to drink?

2. Jack: (6)_____ great music, (7)_____?

Mai: Yes. It sounds good.

Jack: (8)_____ you somewhere before? At Sinh's, for instance?

Mai: No. I've never been there.

Jack: So (9)_____ Lan's?

Mai: No. I'm her cousin.

- c) *Work in groups. Act out a party situation in which you meet many young people that you haven't known before.*

Useful Expressions

Introducing yourself

- Hello! / Hi! I'm ... I'm from ...
- My name's ..., by the way.
- How do you do? I'm ... Nice to meet you.

Checking if you know someone

- Well, I don't think we've met. My name's ...
- Haven't I seen you at ...'s?
- You're a friend of ...'s, aren't you?

Making offers

- How about ...?
- Can I get you something to drink? / Could I get you a drink?
- Would you like something to eat?

Commenting on the situation

- It's a great party, isn't it?
- Isn't it a great / lovely party?
- The music sounds great, doesn't it?

 **WRITING****Writing a Narrative**

- a) *Work in pairs. Complete the passage with words from the box. Some words can be used more than once.*

tall	controlled	vicious	crazy
slim	shy	timid	terrified
short	appearance	imbecile	smart

How could I ever forget a classmate of mine in the fourth grade, Poisonous Bin? He was our age but very (1)_____ and (2)_____ with black hair cut very (3)_____. All the guys in the class were completely fascinated by his (4)_____ and particularly, the way he looked so self-(5)_____. He was really (6)_____ but (7)_____. He had a way of criticizing you that made everyone else in the class laugh at you. I must confess that I was really (8)_____ and (9)_____ then because I was the youngest boy at home. I can't remember the number of times he reduced me to tears. Every time I hear the word "(10)_____" I still think of him. "You are an (11)_____. You will never amount to much. You are an (12)_____." And everyone giggled. I was (13)_____ of him, but in a funny sort of way, I really loved being near him because he would be very nice to you if he was in a good mood, and you would learn a lot from him!



- b) *Number each sentence to show its order in the piece of writing. The first one has been done for you.*

- During the party, she was always surrounded by a cheerful and noisy crowd.
- I must say that Trang is one of my best friends now.
- Unfortunately, my family had to move to a big city.

- She looked athletic in blue jeans and a T-shirt, and she danced beautifully at the party.
 - It was her cheerful face with the two dimples on her cheeks that attracted me at first sight.
 - She was a decisive and smart player at the game.
 - 1 I met Trang at my cousin's birthday party two years ago.
 - Furthermore, she was an interesting playmate because she was able to help me improve my playing strategies.
 - However, we still keep in touch through e-mails.
 - After the party, we met each other quite often because we shared a common interest – playing chess.
- c) Write within 130 – 150 words about one of your friends. The words and expressions in tasks a) and b) can help you.



LANGUAGE FOCUS

Word Study

Descriptive Adjectives

- a) *Underline the adjectives in the following sentences.*
1. He believes in true friendship and fair play.
 2. My best friend is a responsible and honest girl.
 3. Mr. Linh is not only a devoted but also an excellent teacher.
 4. We have been best friends for many years.
 5. Na is both sociable and kind.
 6. He worked hard so that he could gain a prosperous life.
 7. It is very kind of you to wish me a prosperous and long life.
 8. The bus driver was smart and quick enough to avoid a collision with a very fast truck traveling in the opposite direction.

b) Read the text. Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

persistent	poor	unforgettable	afraid of	bushy
young	wooden	poisonous	long loud piercing	

He is a (1)_____ man living in the countryside. Yet he has been (2)_____ snakes because he got an (3)_____ experience of them. One day he went into the forest in his neighborhood with two of his playmates to gather (4)_____ sticks for sale. While they were going through a (5)_____ area, a deadly (6)_____ snake bit one of the boys. The (7)_____ boy uttered a (8)_____ sound and fell to the ground. Since then he has had a (9)_____ phobia of snakes.

c) Rearrange the words in each sentence to make it grammatically correct. The first one has been done for you.

1. the / small / there / bottles / five / green / are / table / on

→ There are five green bottles on the small table.

2. made / he / fatal / so / mistakes / far / has / many

3. submarine / son / ugly / yellow / my / large / an / has

4. silk / blue / bought / a / she / has / collapsible / umbrella

5. village / children / having approached / ragged / the / saw / of / we / a / lot / screaming

Grammar

Verb Form Review

Complete the passage with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses. The first one has been done for you.

Ninh and I (0) *used* (use) to be best friends and do crazy things together. One of the days I still (1)_____ (remember) best was when he was struck by lightning. We (2)_____ (not, have) class on that day because there was no school. All the teachers (3)_____ (have) to attend an important meeting with local authorities. Ninh and I

(4)_____ (go) swimming in the river with some village children because the weather (5)_____ (be) so hot for several days. The sky was so blue and high. There (6)_____ (be) a few clouds far in the east. We (7)_____ (use, have) a lot of fun with this small river because after our swimming we (8)_____ (use, climb) up the trees along the river banks for their fruits.



As usual, Ninh and I climbed up the tallest tree because we (9)_____ (can, see) the whole village from there. While we (10)_____ (be, bite) into some sour guavas the wind suddenly (11)_____ (blow) harder and harder. Suddenly a thunder (12)_____ (come) along with a great flash of lightning. I was so scared and (13)_____ (fall) down the tree and became unconscious. When I opened my eyes, I was in my bed, surrounded by my parents and relatives. Later on, I (14)_____ (be, tell) that Ninh (15)_____ (be, burn) badly by the lightning but he was still alive.

From that day up to now I (16)_____ (keep) away from the river and the trees along its banks, and Ninh (17)_____ (get) the nickname the “lightning-god-spared boy.”

Linking Words

Match one line in column A with one in column B. Then use the correct linking words in the box to fill in the blanks.

and or but either neither	
A	B
1. He packed his suitcase	a. nor their teachers have prepared for the excursion.
2. Does it mean he's going to recover	b. or send him a fax.
3. I thought it was late	c. _____ stay unconscious?
4. I'll _____ make a call	d. _____ it was still very early.
5. _____ the students	e. _____ went out to the minibus.