

DISCUSSING A PLAN WITH FRIENDS AND MAKING SUGGESTIONS

1 Where do you usually meet your friends? What's the best place to meet? Why?

at someone's house café cinema
park shopping centre

2 Read the conversation between Oscar and Josh about choosing a place to meet. Where do they agree to meet?



Oscar: Sam and Ali want to meet us on Saturday.
Josh: That sounds cool. I'm free on Saturday.
Oscar: Great. Where shall we meet?
Josh: What about going to a café? We could have a drink and maybe a burger.
Oscar: I'm not sure. The cafés in town are expensive and Sam doesn't have much money.
Josh: That's true. So I guess the cinema isn't a good idea, then?
Oscar: No, probably not. Why don't we meet in the shopping centre? We can look round the shops, but we don't have to buy anything. Do you think that's a good idea?
Josh: No, I don't think so. Ali hates shopping and I'm not keen on it either. What about going to the park? We could take our skateboards. What do you think?
Oscar: Hmm, I don't think that's a good idea. The problem with that is, the park's nice in summer, but it's winter now and it isn't much fun when it's cold.
Josh: Yes, maybe you're right. Well, why don't we all meet at my house? We can watch a film and I'll ask my mum to get some snacks.
Oscar: That's a good idea. I think we all enjoy the same kinds of films.
Josh: OK, let's do that. I'll text everyone to tell them the plan!

3 Read the conversation again and answer the questions.

- 1 What's the problem with the cafés in town?
- 2 Who doesn't like shopping?
- 3 Why does Oscar think it's a bad idea to meet in the park?
- 4 Who is going to get some snacks?

KEY LANGUAGE FOR DISCUSSING A PLAN WITH FRIENDS

Suggesting ideas:

What about / How about ...? Why don't we ...? We could ...

Agreeing with ideas:

That's a good idea. That sounds great! That's true. Yes, maybe you're right.

Disagreeing with ideas:

I'm not sure. The problem with that is ...

Giving your opinion:

I think ..., I don't think ..., I don't think so.

Asking for an opinion:

What do you think? Do you think that's a good idea?

Making a decision:

Yes, let's do that.

Notice! the verb form in the phrases for making suggestions:

*Why don't we **meet** in the park? What about / How about **meeting** in the park?*

4 Read the conversation between Oscar and Josh again. Which phrases from the **Key Language** box do they use?

Oscar:
Josh:

5 Choose the correct words to complete the mini dialogues.

- A:** Why don't we ¹ go / going ice skating on Saturday?
- B:** ² I don't / I'm not sure. It's usually too busy on Saturdays.
- A:** ³ I'm not / I don't think it's a good idea to have a party at home. Your parents might not like the mess!
- B:** Yes, maybe ⁴ good idea / you're right. Maybe it's best to have it somewhere else.
- A:** How about ⁵ go / going to a concert for your birthday? What ⁶ you think that's a good idea / do you think?
- B:** Yes, ⁷ it's good / that's a good idea!
- A:** We ⁸ could / will go to the beach next weekend. ⁹ I'm / I think everyone likes going to the beach, don't they?
- B:** ¹⁰ It looks / That sounds great!

6 Complete the responses in the mini dialogues. Use the word in brackets.

A: What do you want to do next weekend?

B: ¹ shopping in town? (why)

A: What about inviting Ollie and Ross to the party?

B: ² Ollie doesn't get on well with everyone. (sure)

A: We could organise a trip to a theme park in the summer holidays?

B: ³ ! I'll ask my mum to help. (idea)

A: How about having a barbecue next Saturday, if the weather's nice?

B: OK, ⁴ that. I love barbecues! (do)

7 Work in pairs. You are planning a day out with some friends. Look at the places you can choose. Think of some advantages and disadvantages for each one.



8 Work in pairs. Discuss your plans for a day out. Discuss all the options in Exercise 7 and agree where to.

9 Tell the class which place you chose and why.