

## 4

## C

G usually and used to  
V friendship  
P /s/ or /z/

## Still friends?

## 1 VOCABULARY &amp; SPEAKING friendship

a Complete the text with the phrases below.

argue close friend colleague get on very well  
have a lot in common keep in touch known  
lost touch met



I have a *close friend* called Irene. I've <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ her for about 15 years now. We <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ at work – she was a <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of mine at the company where I used to work, and we used to have our coffee breaks at the same time.

We <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ although we don't <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ – we have quite different interests. We don't work together any more, and when I changed jobs we <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ for a couple of years. But now we <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ regularly. We phone each other once a week, and we see each other about twice a month. We don't often <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, only sometimes about films as we have completely different tastes!

b Think of a close friend of yours. In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

How long have you known him / her?

Where did you meet?

Why do you get on well?

What do you have in common?

Do you ever argue? What about?

How often do you see each other?

How do you keep in touch the rest of the time?

Have you ever lost touch? Why? When?

Do you think you'll stay friends?

## 2 GRAMMAR usually and used to

a Have you ever tried to get in touch with an old friend? Why? Did you succeed?

b Read about the *Friends Reunited* website and answer the questions.

- 1 What's it for?
- 2 How do you use it?

*Friends Reunited* is a website which helps you to find old friends and let's you read what people you've lost touch with are doing now.



## How does it work?

New visitors find their old schools or workplaces, which are usually listed on the web page, and then add their names to the list of people already registered. They can also post photos and information about what they are doing now. When they want to contact another member, *Friends Reunited* forwards the message. Communication takes place without revealing personal email addresses or contact details until members decide they want to do so.

c Now read about two people who registered on the website. Who did they want to meet? Why?

d Complete the texts with the sentences below.

he used to go to I used to know I used to live  
used to come we used to go out

e Look at the two texts again. When do we use *used to*? How do you make negatives and questions?

f p.136 Grammar Bank 4C. Read the rules and do the exercises.

## Friends Reunited?



## Carol, 52, from Cornwall

When I was 15 I fell in love with a boy called Robert. I was at school, a girls' convent, and he was in his first year at university. <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in secret because my parents didn't like him at all – Robert was a long-haired hippy who played the guitar. But after a year I broke up with him because my parents were making my life impossible. Robert was very angry, and we completely lost touch. But I always wondered what had happened to him, and when I heard about *Friends Reunited* I decided to try to get in touch again. I'm divorced now, and I thought 'you never know...'. I remembered the name of the school that <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and I went to their web page on *Friends Reunited* and there was his name! I sent him an email and two days later I got a reply...



## Alex, 24, from Manchester

<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in Manchester but when I was eighteen my family moved south to London. Two years ago I had a really bad motorbike accident. I was in a coma for two weeks and in hospital for six months. I completely lost my memory, not just of the crash itself but also of my past. While I was in hospital, my family <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ every day and play me my favourite music and show me photos. Little by little I began to remember who I was and who my family were. But I still couldn't remember anything about the rest of my life. Then my sister had the idea of contacting *Friends Reunited*. Through them she contacted people <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in Manchester when I was at school. She arranged a reunion in a pub near Piccadilly Station and I travelled to Manchester in search of my past.