How did you meet your partner?

We used to work for the same company.

**G** past and present habits and states **V** relationships **P** the letter *s*, used to

### **READING & LISTENING**

- How do you think people usually meet friends and partners nowadays? Number the phrases 1-5 (1 = the most popular). Then compare with a partner. Do you agree?
  - A at work
  - B at school or university
  - C online (e.g. on forums, social networking sites, etc.)
  - D in a bar, club, etc.
  - E through friends
- Read the beginning of two stories which appeared on Instagram #thewaywemet. Where did Tiffany and Kristina meet their partners for the first time?
- Read the stories again. Write T (Tiffany) or K (Kristina).

The first time she met her partner, she...

- 1 saw him from a distance.
- 2 felt a bit frightened.
- 3 had moved away from her hometown.
- 4 had a problem with her health.
- 5 was immediately attracted to him.
- 6 felt that he didn't understand her.
- d What do you think happened to the two couples next? Go to Communication The way we met A p.107, B p.112. Find out what happened.
- Think of a couple you know well, e.g. your parents or friends. How did they meet? Do you know any couples who met in unusual circumstances?
- 2 GRAMMAR past and present habits and states
- 105.15 Listen to John talking about how he met his partner. Where did they meet? Was it a romantic meeting?
- Listen again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false). Correct the F sentences.
  - 1 John was teaching English in Indonesia.
  - 2 His future wife was one of his students.
  - 3 She usually arrived for her classes on time.
  - 4 John was carrying a lot of things to class.
  - 5 She made him drop them.
  - 6 She helped him to pick them up.
  - They were friends for a long time before going out together.
  - 8 They've been married for ten years.

#### **⊘THE WAY WE MET** Tiffany's story

Three years ago, I stopped at the supermarket on my way home from work to get some food. After checking out, I walked out of the store and pressed the unlock button on my car keys to open my white Jeep Cherokee. But as I got nearer, I noticed the rear door on the passenger's side was already open and there was a guy standing beside it. At first, I thought he was trying to steal my car, or rob me. But when I got a little nearer, I noticed he was actually unloading his shopping into the car. I was scared. I went up to him nervously and said, 'Um, hi.' He said, 'Hi,' and looked at me in surprise while he continued to unload his shopping. Then I said, 'Um, this is my car.' He laughed at me as if I was crazy and replied, 'No, it isn't, it's mine.' So I pressed the lock button on my car keys to show him that it was definitely my car. His face turned white.

#### **♥THE WAY WE MET** Kristina's story

I came to New York to do a Master's degree in Creative Writing. Matt was a personal trainer, and he was studying for his doctorate in Chinese medicine at another university in New York. At the time, I used to do a lot of running - I'd run two marathons - and I started to get really bad back pain. I saw lots of doctors, and they all said different things, like 'do yoga' and 'maybe you need an operation'. None of them knew what was wrong. The final one suggested acupuncture, so I thought I'd try it as a last resort. When I walked into the clinic for the session, I saw Matt. He was the acupuncturist. The moment we looked into each other's eyes, we connected. But he didn't ask me out; he was very professional. On my last session, I asked him how old he was. He said he'd be 29 the following week, but that he wasn't going to celebrate, because he had to study.



c Look at three extracts from the listening. Answer the questions with a partner.

I used to be a teacher...

She didn't use to be very punctual...

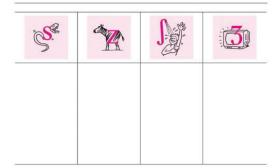
We sometimes used to have tea or a beer together...

- 1 When do we use *used to*? How do we make questions?
- 2 Are these things probably true now?
- d @ p.141 Grammar Bank 5B

# 3 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING the letter s, used to

a ①5.17 Listen to the sounds and the words in the list. How is s (or se) pronounced? Write the words in the correct columns.

used to usually use (verb) busy decision friends holidays lose music occasion parents practise singer sport sugar summer supermarket sure unusual



b **1** 5.18 Listen and check.

# c Answer with a partner.

- 1 How is s usually pronounced at the beginning of a word? What are the two exceptions?
- 2 What two ways can s be pronounced at the end of a word?
- 3 How is s pronounced in vowel + -sion?

O used to

Remember that used to and (didn't) use to are normally linked, and are both pronounced /'ju:sta/.

d **1** 5.19 Listen and write five sentences. Then practise saying them.

e In pairs, tell each other about **TWO** of the following. Give as much information as you can.

# Past and present habits

When you were young,...



- what did you use to have for breakfast? What do you usually have now?
- what music did you use to listen to a lot? What do you usually listen to nowadays?
- what books or comics did you use to read? What do you usually read now?
- where did you use to spend your summer holidays?
  What do you usually do now in the summer?

#### Is there...

- a friend you used to be really close to, but don't see any more?
- a TV programme you used to be addicted to?
  What kind of programmes do you usually watch now?
- a machine or device you used to use a lot, but don't use any more? What apps or devices do you usually use now to communicate with your friends?
- a sport or game you used to play a lot, but which you've given up? What exercise do you do nowadays?



# **VOCABULARY** relationships

- Match the words and photos.
  - a colleague
  - a friend
  - argue with somebody
  - discuss something with somebody
  - meet somebody (for the first time)
  - know somebody (for a long time)







# Vp.158 Vocabulary Bank Relationships

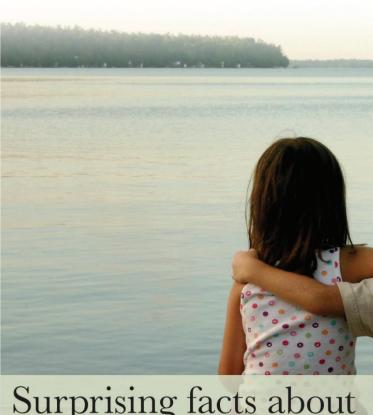
- Think of one of your close friends. Ask and answer the questions with a partner.
  - How long have you known him / her?
  - Where did you meet?
  - Why do you get on well?
  - What do you have in common?
  - Do you ever argue? What about?
  - How often do you see each other?
  - How do you keep in touch?
  - · Have you ever lost touch? Why? When?
  - Do you think you'll stay friends?
- What four letters can you put after these 'people' words to form an abstract noun?

friend leader member partner relation

## Complete the sentences with an abstract noun from d.

- 1 My sister and I have a very good \_\_\_\_\_. We get on really well.
- 2 My gym\_ expires at the end of the month. I'll need to renew it.
- 3 One of the qualities a boss needs the most is good \_skills.
- 4 Marriage should be an equal \_
- 5 Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan Novels are about the between two young girls, Lila and Elena.

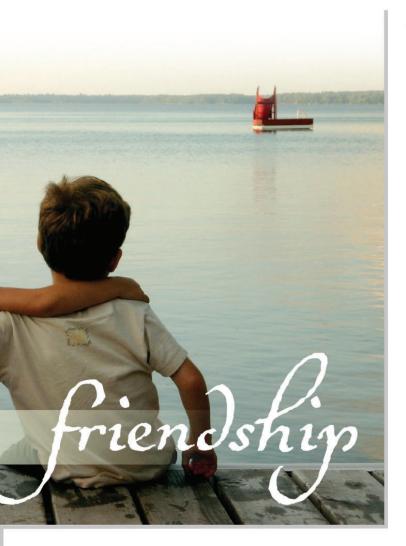
### LISTENING



Surprising facts about



- have friends too!
- We have more real friends thanks to
- 3 Having friends at work makes you more
- \_ can make you lose two friends.
- 5 Friendship is good for your \_
- You're going to listen to part of a radio programme where the presenters are talking about friendship. With a partner, guess the missing words in the five facts.
- 5.22 Listen to the programme and check. Were you correct?



c Listen again and complete the chart.

Fact 1 some examples	
Fact 2 the reason	
Fact 3 the reason, and the exception	
Fact 4 the reason	
Fact 5 the reason, and a statistic	

**d** From your experience, do you think these facts are true?

# 6 SPEAKING

a Read sentences A–G. Tick (✓) the ones you agree with and cross (✗) the ones you don't agree with. Think about your reasons.

А	You can only have two or three close friends.
В	Going on holiday with friends can end the friendship.
С	Men keep their friends longer than women.
D	You should never criticize your friends' partners.
E	It's impossible to stay good friends with an ex-partner.
F	It's impossible to be real friends with someone who's much older or much younger than you.
G	Parents should never try to be friends with their children.

**b** In groups of three or four, each choose one topic you're going to talk about. Prepare what you're going to say, using the plan below.

#### Topic:

Do you (strongly) agree, (strongly) disagree, or both agree and disagree?

Reasons and examples (from your own experience or of people you know):

c Take turns to present your opinion. Use the language from the **Presenting an opinion** box. Listen to the other members of your group and then say if you agree or disagree, and why.



Giving examples

**For example**, I have a friend who I've known since I was five years old...

**For instance**, when I broke up with my ex-boyfriend,...