

6A | Celebrations

VOCABULARY & SPEAKING: celebrations

1 Put the life events in order. More than one answer is possible.

- you are born
- you get married
- you graduate
- you go to school
- you have a baby
- you retire
- you get a job

2 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.

- Do you celebrate the events in exercise 1?
- If you do, how do you celebrate them?

A

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MEANY BLOG

Saturday 25th June

The Office Grind – Patrick Meany's life at an office



Richard's party was last night. It was at the Madison Hotel and around 60 people came. It was a big surprise for Richard.

_____ When he got to the hotel, we sang 'For he's a jolly good fellow'. We had a wonderful dinner and then we had the presentation. We gave him a gold watch. Nobody could believe Richard started with the company in 1975! I think he liked the party a lot, he looked happy anyway. Marjorie said some words about Richard, and we all congratulated him. I took some photos with my new camera. Here they are.

[Click here for photos of the party.](#)

READING

1 Read the blogs. Match each blog to a life event from Speaking exercise 1.

2 Read the blogs again. Match the sentences 1–3 to the blogs A–C.

- 1 Anyway, we sat and talked for a long time.
- 2 This year, it was at my best friend's house.
- 3 He didn't know anything about it.

3 Read the sentences and decide if they are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false sentences.

- 1 Patrick got a watch at the party.
- 2 Richard was with the company in 1975.
- 3 Frank and Jessica didn't have a big wedding.
- 4 Frank and Jessica got married in an Indian restaurant.
- 5 The birthday party was outside.
- 6 People danced at the birthday party.

B

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MARISA'S BLOG

Thurs 6.45pm 16/05

Daily Shout – A blog for Marisa's family and friends

Can you believe it! My best friends Jessica and Frank finally got married last Saturday. I was so happy for them – ten years together! They didn't want a big wedding; it was a very quiet thing in the town hall. I didn't go to the ceremony, but I went to the party on Saturday night. It was in a big Indian restaurant. Guess what? Julian was there! It was great to see him again after all these years. _____ It was a great evening. I'm so happy for Jessica and Frank.



Wed 3.16pm 09/05

C

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K's and P's blog

Our Birthdays! – A twice-a-year blog

by Karen and Phil Waters

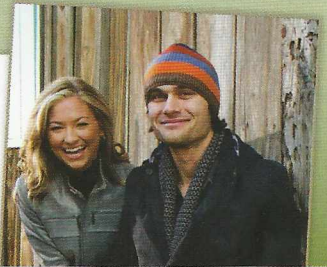
1st January 19:42

Well, I am finally thirty! I was born on 31 December, so there is usually a party on my birthday. _____ She lives in a big country house near our town. We ate at small round tables in the garden. Phil went to sleep right after dinner, again! He said it was the hot weather. After dinner, people danced until 5

am. At 6 or 7 in the morning, I woke Phil up, and we had breakfast in the garden.

[Click here](#) to see a list of other people born on my birthday.

[Click here](#) to see my past birthday blogs. Thanks to everyone who came and made it a very good celebration.



GRAMMAR: past simple irregular verbs

There are two kinds of verbs in the past simple. Regular verbs end in *-ed* in the affirmative form of the past simple.

Irregular verbs have a different form in the past simple affirmative.

eat – ate go – went make – made
see – saw have – had

You can see a list of irregular past simple verbs on page 159.

The rules for questions and negatives are the same for regular and irregular past simple verbs.

Did you go to Richard's party? Yes, we did.
We didn't go to a disco.

SEE LANGUAGE REFERENCE PAGE 70

- Look at the blogs in Reading exercise 1. Underline eleven different irregular past tense affirmative verbs. Write the past form and the infinitive.

got – get

- Complete the blog. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple.

Scott's blog

A magical journey – Scott's travel blog

On 31st December, my friend and I (1) _____ (be) on a train from Switzerland to Spain. We (2) _____ (have) a compartment for two people and some nice food for a picnic that we (3) _____ (buy) in Switzerland. We (4) _____ (want) to be on a train for December 31st. The train (5) _____ (not stop) at midnight, but it (6) _____ (stop) twenty minutes later. We (7) _____ (look) out the window and (8) _____ (eat) our picnic. We (9) _____ (not sleep) all night, we (10) _____ (sit) and (11) _____ (talk). We (12) _____ (get) home to Barcelona at 8am in the morning on January 1. It (13) _____ (be) a good New Year's Eve.

- Make questions in the past with the words and with *you*.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 where / go? | 4 what / eat? |
| 2 what / do? | 5 what / drink? |
| 3 who / go with? | 6 what time / go to bed? |

- Work in pairs. Choose one of the following celebrations and interview your partner with the questions in exercise 3.

- A birthday party
- A wedding
- A New Year's Eve party
- Other (you choose)

SPEAKING

- Work in pairs, A and B. You are going to tell a story of a celebration.

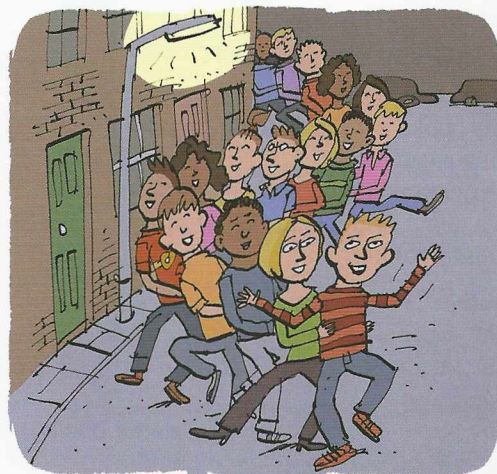
A: Begin. Complete sentence 1 with an idea of your own.

B: Continue the story with sentence 2.

- Last night, we went to a _____ party.
- It was in a _____.
- It started at _____.
- _____ and _____ were at the party.
- We ate _____
- and we drank _____
- At the party, we met _____

- Continue the story in turns. Choose phrases from the list below to give you ideas.

- called for a pizza
- had a coffee
- washed the dishes
- the music was loud and noisy
- danced in the street
- went out to the street
- the police arrived
- had a nap



- Finish the story.

At _____, we went home. It was an interesting party!