

## A2.1 Friendship

### Useful Language:

- **It's the best of both worlds.**
- **We used to work together.**
- **I must be on my way now.**

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Read through the quiz below and choose the best answer for *you* for each question.

*What kind of person are you?*

*Do the quiz and find out...*

**Question 1:** *What is the best place to live?*

- a.) In the centre of the city. It's where the action is.
- b.) It's the peace and quiet of the country for me.
- c.) I think life in the suburbs is the best of both worlds.

**Question 2:** *What kind of holiday suits you best?*

- a.) A trip to New York with lots of spending money.
- b.) Relaxing on a beach alone far away from the crowds.
- c.) Somewhere with cultural/historical activities to enjoy with friends.

**Question 3:** *When it's your birthday, do you...*

- a.) Have a lively party with all your friends and family there?
- b.) Keep it quiet? (You don't want everybody to know!)
- c.) Go out for a good meal in your favourite restaurant with someone special?

**Question 4:** *When it's your lunch break at work, do you...*

- a.) Go with the usual group of colleagues to the local café or staff canteen?
- b.) Have a packed lunch at your desk? (It's cheaper.)
- c.) Go out for a meal on Fridays, but not on the other days?

**Question 5:** *Which of these activities would you enjoy the most?*

- a.) A day out at a football match, or a night out dancing in a nightclub.
- b.) Reading a good book, or visiting a museum or art gallery.
- c.) Playing cards or watching a good movie with one or two best friends.

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Now read the analysis of your answers below. Do you agree?

### Mostly 'a' answers

*You are one of life's extroverts. You like to be the centre of attention and you're never happier than when you are in company. Remember though, sometimes it's good to have some quiet time alone to think.*

### Mostly 'b' answers

*Who's that hiding in the corner? Many people may think of you as introverted or even anti-social. They may mistake your shyness for dislike of company. More confidence is what you really need, or life may pass you by!*

### Mostly 'c' answers

*You have achieved a good balance. There are times when you enjoy being with others and other times when you prefer to be on your own. Don't forget though, on some occasions like **your** birthday – it is all about you!*

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**Think about a good friend. Tell your partner all about him or her. How long have you been friends? Where did you first meet? Do you have a lot in common (do you share the same likes and dislikes)? How often do you see each other?**



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*One of my oldest friends is John. We met nearly twenty years ago when I was living in Spain. We used to work together and we have the same sense of humour – we laugh at the same things. Now we both live in London...*

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### 4 **Would you lie/cheat/steal for a friend? What are the limits of friendship? Read through the situations below and discuss the difficult decisions together.**

**Situation One:** You and a friend have been to a party. You know your friend has been drinking alcohol, but you let him drive you home because you live only two streets away. It's not far, but you are stopped by the police. The policeman asks you directly, "*Has your friend drunk any alcohol?*" What are you going to say?

**Situation Two:** You work together with your best friend. You have known each other since you were at school together. You have recently been promoted though, and now you are your friend's manager – her boss. On Monday morning she is absent from work and has phoned to say she is sick, but in the evening you see her in the pub with friends. She is laughing and joking and she is definitely very healthy! What are you going to say to her?

**Situation Three:** Your best friend is in an unhappy relationship, so you are not surprised to hear that he is seeing another girl secretly. However, now his girlfriend is suspicious. So he has asked you to telephone her and confirm that he was at the cinema with you last night. Of course this is not true – he was with the other woman! You like his girlfriend and you hate telling lies. What are you going to do?

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**An Encounter with an Old Friend.**

**Imagine you are Anna/Andrew Smith. Your partner is Samantha/Sam Jones. You used to be very good friends when you lived together when you were students at university. However, you haven't seen each other for ten years. You meet in the street by chance. Role-play the conversation with your partner:**

*Samantha/Sam, I haven't seen you for ages! How are you?*

*What has happened to your... (...long hair/...moustache)?  
You're looking great!*

*Where are you living/working these days?  
Did you ever get married?  
Have you got any kids?  
Do you ever hear from our old friends?*

*I must be on my way now.*

*What's your email address and phone number?  
We must stay in touch!*

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**Write an email to Sam/Samantha to make arrangements to meet and talk about old times together.**

*Dear Sam,  
It was lovely meeting you the other day. I'm writing...*

