Invitations and Making Plans

Warm up:

- What was the last time you met with friends? Where did you go?
- What is usually the busiest month of the year for you, and why?
- Do you enjoy planning events like birthday parties or weddings? Why or why not?
- Is it rude in your country to be 5 or 10 minutes late?
- Have you ever lied so you didn't have to go to something? What was it?

1. Read the invitation and answer the questions on the next page.

Save the Date!

We're finally getting married! On July the 1st we are getting married at the Saint-Jean-Baptiste church in Lyon, France.

The ceremony starts at 5pm, but please arrive an hour early. We will provide snacks at the church, so please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

After the ceremony we are walking to a nearby bar, where we will have an open bar, so the champagne is on us! However, we have not organized dinner, so please bring one dish, anything from your country's cuisine would be great!

Also, we thought it would be fun if everyone could dress up like their favourite 80's rock star!

Please RSVP by May the 1st, we need to know how many people to plan for.

Lots of love, Dave and Julie!

PS. A plus-one is welcome, but must also RSVP.

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a) Where will the wedding take place, and when should guests arrive?

b) What should a guest do if they are vegan or vegetarian?

c) Who will be paying for the drinks?

d) What is the dress code for the wedding?

e) What do you think RSVP means?

f) Does this wedding sound like fun to you? What dish would you bring?

Present Continuous for the Future

Present continuous is a tense which is usually used to talk about something happening *right now*, in this moment.

For example: *"I am working at the moment, could you call back later?"*

The structure is: the verb to be (am/is/are) + verb-ing.

Present continuous can also be used to talk about future events.

For example: *"I am working on Monday, I can't go to the beach."*

When we use present continuous for the future, it is only used to talk about organised events.

For example: *"On Saturday I am meeting a friend at a café."* ✓

"It is raining tonight." ✗

The second sentence is not correct because rain is not something that is organised or scheduled. "It will rain tonight" is correct.

This means present continuous can be very useful when making plans with someone.

For example: *"What are you doing on Saturday? We are going to a movie, would you like to come?"*

2. Choose four times in the next week and ask your partner what they are doing at that time. Write down their answers in present continuous.

For example: *"What are you doing this evening?"* *"I'm having dinner with my family this evening."*

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

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3. Read the conversation about the wedding from the invitation on page 1 and circle 5 examples of present continuous.

Joel: Hey, would you like to come to a wedding with me next week?

Diana: Is that your way of asking me to marry you?

Joel: What?! No, no, that's not what I meant. Do you remember Dave and Julie? You met them last year at our dinner party.

Diana: Yeah, they were nice… well Dave was nice, Julie was a bit strange. She talks about the 80's a lot.

Joel: Well, they're getting married in July, and we can bring a plus one. So, would you like to come?

Diana: I'm not sure, I'm visiting my parents in July and I'm also going to a big work conference in June, so I'll be pretty tired. Can I let you know next week?

Joel: Actually, I need to know by Friday at the latest, we have to RSVP by May the first.

Diana: Ok, when exactly are they getting married?

Joel: Let me check the invite… they're getting married on the 1st of July.

Diana: I'm going to a yoga class on the first of July. What time does it start?

Joel: It starts at 5pm. They're having the ceremony first, and then we're walking to a bar nearby.

Diana: Ok, my yoga class ends at 2pm, so that should be fine. Thanks for the invite. Is there a dress code?

Joel: Yeah… Julie wants everyone to dress up like their favourite 80's rock star.

Diana: It's… an 80's themed wedding? I'm sorry but I forgot, I'm having dinner with friends on the first of July, so I can't come.

Joel: No problem, I understand. Do you think I'd look good as David Bowie?

Hours, Days, Months

When talking about hours we use 'at', when talking about days we use 'on' and when talking about months and years we use 'in.'

For example: *"The wedding is starting at 5pm."*

"They are getting married on July the first."

"I am very busy in July."

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4. Complete the conversation below with 'at', 'on', or 'in.'

Diana: So, how was the wedding?

Joel: It was ok. In the end I dressed up as Elton John. Julie wants to have a party ..... August for her birthday. It's 80's themed again.

Diana: Well that sounds fun, but I'm on holiday ..... August so I can't come. Would you like to have lunch sometime this week?

Joel: Yeah, that would be nice. What are you doing ..... Friday?

Diana: I'm sorry, I can't do anything ..... Friday, I finish work ..... 6pm. Are you free ..... Tuesday?

Joel: I am, but it has to be an early lunch, I have a doctor's appointment ..... 2pm.

Diana: No problem, would you like to meet ..... 11:30 at the café near your house?

Joel: Sounds good, see you then.

5. Roleplay: invite your partner to one of the events on the cards below. They will ask a few questions about it and then make an excuse for why they can't come. Then swap.

Student A

Write a few excuses below

E.g. *"I can't come to your party because I am driving to Switzerland on Friday."*

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A company meeting about goals

Time: Monday, 7am

Place: Meeting room 3

Details: Everybody should make a presentation about what motivates them.

A child's birthday party

Time: Saturday, 2pm

Place: 18 Jefferson road, the house with the blue roof

Details: Everybody has to dress up like a cowboy.

An online meeting with your company

Time: Wednesday, 10am

Place: Use the Teams link.

Details: 300 people will be in this online meeting, no questions are allowed.

A horror movie with friends

Time: Thursday, 6:30pm

Place: Astor theater, 95 Mellow street.

Details: The movie *Bloody Sunrise* is playing, and your friends are very excited.

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Student B

Write a few excuses below

E.g. *"I can't come to your party because I am driving to Switzerland on Friday."*

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A team building exercise with colleagues

Time: Monday, 2pm

Place: 73 Lewis Park

Details: Your boss has organized a game of paintball for you and your colleagues.

A heavy metal concert

Time: Friday, 8pm

Place: 32 Maple street

Details: The band *Super Death* is playing, it will be a crazy concert.

A princess themed birthday party

Time: Saturday, 5pm.

Place: 94 Macarthur road

Details: Everybody has to dress like a prince or princess.

A meet up for Star Wars fans

Time: Saturday, 2:30pm

Place: 2 Downey street.

Details: Everybody has to tell the group their favourite Star Wars quote.

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