

Meeting New People

Reading Passage, Comprehension & Practice Questions

Meeting New People

Every day, people around the world meet new people — at school, at work, or in their neighbourhood. Meeting someone new can feel exciting, but it can also feel a little scary. How do you start a conversation? What do you say first? In this lesson, you will read about two young people who meet for the first time and learn some simple ways to say hello and make a new friend.

Before you read, think about these questions:

- What do you usually say when you meet someone new?
- Where is a good place to meet new people?

Reading Passage

My name is Mia. I am 19 years old. I live in a small town in England. Last Monday, I started a new English class at my local community centre.

On the first day, I felt very nervous. I did not know anyone in the class. I sat down at a table near the window. Then a boy sat next to me. His name was Tom.

Tom smiled at me and said, "Hello! My name is Tom. What is your name?" I smiled back and said, "Hi! I am Mia. Nice to meet you!" Tom said, "Nice to meet you too, Mia. Where are you from?" I said, "I am from Poland. And you?" Tom said, "I am from here — England!"

We talked for a few minutes before the class started. Tom told me he liked football and music. I told him I liked reading and cooking. We were different, but we had a good conversation.

After class, Tom said, "See you next week, Mia!" I felt happy. It is not so difficult to meet new people. You just need to smile and say hello!

Key Vocabulary in Context

Word / Phrase	Part of Speech	Definition	Example Sentence
nervous	adjective	feeling a little scared or worried about something	I felt nervous on my first day at school.
community centre	noun phrase	a building where local people meet for classes and activities	We play tennis at the community centre every Saturday.

smiled	verb (past tense)	moved your mouth to show you are happy or friendly	She smiled when she saw her friend.
nice to meet you	phrase	a friendly thing to say when you meet someone for the first time	"Hello! I am Anna." "Nice to meet you, Anna!"
conversation	noun	a talk between two or more people	We had a long conversation about our favourite films.
different	adjective	not the same as another person or thing	We like different kinds of music.
local	adjective	in or near the place where you live	I go to my local supermarket every week.
difficult	adjective	not easy; needs effort or thought	The exam was very difficult for me.

Reading Strategies & Comprehension Tips

Skimming the Passage

Before reading every word, **skim** the passage quickly. Look at the first sentence of each paragraph. This tells you the main idea. For example, the first paragraph tells you Mia's name, age, and where she lives. You do not need to read every word to find this information.

Scanning for Specific Information

Scan means to look quickly for one piece of information. For example, if a question asks "Where is Tom from?", move your eyes quickly through the text and look for the word *Tom* or the word *from*. You do not need to read everything — just find the key word.

Understanding the Order of Events

This passage is a **story**, so events happen in order. First, Mia arrives at class. Then Tom sits next to her. Then they talk. Finally, class ends. Ask yourself: *What happens first? What happens next?* This helps you understand the whole story.

Using Context Clues

If you do not know a word, look at the words around it. For example, if you do not know *nervous*, the sentence says "I felt very nervous. I did not know anyone in the class." This tells you *nervous* is a feeling connected to an uncomfortable situation.

Common Reading Pitfalls & Traps

Confusing Mia and Tom's Details

The passage gives information about **both** Mia and Tom. Be careful not to mix up their details. Mia is from *Poland*. Tom is from *England*. Mia likes reading and cooking. Tom likes football and music. Read carefully and

ask: *Who does this sentence talk about?*

The Word "local"

The passage says Mia goes to a "local community centre." Some students think *local* means *small*. It does not. *Local* means *near where you live*. The text does not tell us if the community centre is big or small.

Feeling Nervous vs. Feeling Scared

Mia says she felt "very nervous." This does not mean she was very scared or that she did not want to go to class. *Nervous* is a lighter feeling — like butterflies in your stomach. She still went to class and talked to Tom, so she was brave!

The Word "different"

The passage says Mia and Tom "were different." This does **not** mean they did not like each other. The next sentence says they "had a good conversation." Being different does not mean you cannot be friends.

Time Words

Pay attention to words like *last Monday*, *on the first day*, and *after class*. These words tell you **when** things happen. Do not confuse the order of events in the story.

Quick Summary

In this lesson, you read a short story about Mia, a young woman from Poland who meets Tom, a young man from England, at an English class. They introduce themselves, talk about their interests, and make a new connection. The story shows that meeting new people is not so difficult — a simple smile and a "hello" are great ways to start. You also learned eight important words and useful reading strategies to help you understand the text better.

Now read the passage carefully and complete Exercise 1 (Multiple Choice) and Exercise 2 (Fill-in-the-gap dropdown) below.

Meeting New People – Practice Test

A1 | Reading Comprehension Exercises: Multiple Choice & Fill-in-the-Gap Dropdown (20 Questions)

Part 1: Multiple Choice (Questions 1–10)

1 What is the name of the girl in the story?

- A** Emma
- B** Mia
- C** Anna
- D** Sara

2 How old is Mia?

- A** 16 years old
- B** 21 years old
- C** 19 years old
- D** 25 years old

3 Where does Mia live?

- A** In a big city in Poland
- B** In a small town in England
- C** In a large city in England
- D** In a small town in France

4 Where did Mia start a new English class?

- A** At a school
- B** At a library
- C** At her home
- D** At a community centre

5 How did Mia feel on the first day of class?

- A** Very happy
- B** Very bored
- C** Very nervous
- D** Very angry

6 Where did Mia sit in the classroom?

- A** Near the door
- B** At the front of the room
- C** Near the window
- D** At the back of the room

7 Where is Tom from?

- A** Poland
- B** France
- C** England
- D** Germany

8 What does Tom like?

- A** Reading and cooking
- B** Football and music
- C** Music and cooking
- D** Football and reading

9 What did Tom say to Mia after class?

- A** "Goodbye, Mia!"
- B** "See you tomorrow, Mia!"
- C** "See you next week, Mia!"
- D** "Call me, Mia!"

10 What does Mia say you need to do to meet new people?

- A** Study hard and work
- B** Buy gifts and talk
- C** Smile and say hello
- D** Ask many questions

Part 2: Fill in the Gap Dropdown (Questions 11–20)

11 My name is Mia. I am 19 years ____.

- A** old
- B** tall
- C** young

12 I live in a small ____ in England.

- A** town
- B** country
- C** school

13 On the first day, I felt very ____.

- A** nervous
- B** happy
- C** tired

14 I sat down at a table near the ____.

- A** window
- B** door
- C** board

15 Tom ____ at me and said, 'Hello!'

- A** smiled
- B** looked
- C** waved

16 Tom said, 'Nice to ____ you!'

- A** meet
- B** see
- C** help

17 Tom asked, 'Where are you ____?'

- A** from
- B** going
- C** now

18 Tom told me he liked football and ____.

- A** music
- B** reading
- C** cooking

19 We were different, but we had a good ____.

- A** conversation
- B** lesson
- C** lunch

20 It is not so ____ to meet new people.

- A** difficult
- B** easy
- C** fun

Answer Key & Explanations

Meeting New People | A1

Part 1: Multiple Choice

1. **B** Correct Answer: Mia
✓ Explanation: The passage begins with "**My name is Mia.**" This is the first sentence of the text, so **Mia** is clearly the name of the girl telling the story.
2. **C** Correct Answer: 19 years old
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**I am 19 years old.**" This tells us Mia's age is **19**. *I am 19 years old.*
3. **B** Correct Answer: In a small town in England
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**I live in a small town in England.**" This means Mia's home is in a **small town** in **England**, not a big city.
4. **D** Correct Answer: At a community centre
✓ Explanation: The passage says Mia started a new English class at her **local community centre**. A **community centre** is a place where local people can do activities together.
5. **C** Correct Answer: Very nervous
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**I felt very nervous.**" **Nervous** means you feel worried or scared. Mia did not know anyone, so she felt **nervous**.
6. **C** Correct Answer: Near the window
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**I sat down at a table near the window.**" This tells us Mia chose a seat **near the window**.
7. **C** Correct Answer: England
✓ Explanation: Tom says "**I am from here — England!**" This means Tom is from **England**. Mia is from Poland, but Tom is from England.
8. **B** Correct Answer: Football and music
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**Tom told me he liked football and music.**" So Tom's hobbies are **football** and **music**. Mia likes reading and cooking.
9. **C** Correct Answer: "See you next week, Mia!"
✓ Explanation: The passage says "**After class, Tom said, 'See you next week, Mia!'**" This means Tom and Mia will meet again **next week** at the class.
10. **C** Correct Answer: Smile and say hello
✓ Explanation: At the end of the passage, Mia says "**You just need to smile and say hello!**" This is her advice for meeting new people. It is **simple and friendly**.

Part 2: Fill in the Gap

11. **A** **Correct Answer: old**
✓ **Explanation:** We use **old** to talk about age. *I am 19 years old.* This is how we say how old someone is in English.
12. **A** **Correct Answer: town**
✓ **Explanation:** A **town** is a small place where people live. The passage says Mia lives in a *small town in England.*
13. **A** **Correct Answer: nervous**
✓ **Explanation:** **Nervous** means you feel worried or scared. Mia felt *very nervous* because she did not know anyone in the class.
14. **A** **Correct Answer: window**
✓ **Explanation:** The passage says Mia sat at a table near the **window**. A *window* is the glass part of a wall that lets in light.
15. **A** **Correct Answer: smiled**
✓ **Explanation:** **Smiled** means to make a happy face. The passage says *Tom smiled at me*, which is a friendly thing to do when you meet someone.
16. **A** **Correct Answer: meet**
✓ **Explanation:** We say '**Nice to meet you**' when we see someone for the first time. It is a common and friendly greeting. *Nice to meet you, Tom!*
17. **A** **Correct Answer: from**
✓ **Explanation:** We say '**Where are you from?**' to ask about someone's country or city. *I am from Poland* is Mia's answer.
18. **A** **Correct Answer: music**
✓ **Explanation:** The passage says Tom liked **football and music**. *Reading* and *cooking* are what Mia liked, not Tom.
19. **A** **Correct Answer: conversation**
✓ **Explanation:** A **conversation** is when two people talk together. The passage says Mia and Tom had *a good conversation* even though they were different.
20. **A** **Correct Answer: difficult**
✓ **Explanation:** **Difficult** means hard to do. The passage says *It is not so difficult to meet new people* — you just need to smile and say hello!

Score Guide

18–20 Correct	Excellent! You have mastered this topic.
15–17 Correct	Very good! Review the rules you missed.
12–14 Correct	Good start. Re-read the lesson and examples.
0–11 Correct	Study the lesson again before retaking the test.