

# Speak English With Vanessa

Free PDF Worksheet

## How to Invite in English

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*Dear English Learner,*

*Get ready to speak confidently with these English expressions. I recommend reading these sample sentences out loud and using the blank space on the last page to answer my challenge question using the vocabulary. [Click here to watch the original video](#). Thanks so much for learning English with me!*

*Your teacher,  
Vanessa*

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### Invitation Accepted

**By any chance:** *possibly; you can use this when politely asking someone something*

**By any chance,** can I borrow \$10? I forgot my wallet.

**Let me check my schedule:** *you can use this phrase if you need to make sure you don't have plans before committing to something; you can also use it to "put someone off" and avoid ever making plans together. If you are checking your schedule, make sure you get back to the person if you care about the plans!*

I would love to meet you for lunch. **Let me check my schedule**, but I think I can meet on Friday.

**I think we're free:** *"free" means available to do something, you don't have any plans*

**I think we're free** this weekend, do you want to come over for a cookout?

**I can bring** [the whole family.]: *if someone invites you to something, you may ask what you can bring, or offer to bring something, like food or supplies, or in this case, people.*

I'll be at your party on Saturday, **I can bring** my kids and I'll pack some extra chairs and ice for the drinks.

[10:30-noon]-**ish**: *this is a way of saying something will last roughly this long. It won't end exactly at this time, but close to it.*

We'll be at the park from 9-noon-**ish**, as long as it doesn't get too hot.

**We're open the whole day**: *this means you have no plans, you don't have anything else going on. Your calendar, your schedule, is open.*

**We're open the whole day**, so we can come to the party for a couple of hours.

**We'll be there**. *This is a commitment, you are saying yes, I accept your invitation and I/we will be there.*

I would love to come to your wedding! Thank you for inviting us. **We'll be there**.

**No pressure**, [you don't need to bring a present or anything.]: *Sometimes when people say no pressure, they say it because they don't want you to worry about something. In this context, I am saying "I don't want you to worry about bringing a present to the birthday party" which is a common thing to do.*

If you want to bring something to the cookout, bring your favorite dessert. But **no pressure**, I am sure we will have more than enough food!

**You're welcome to bring** [him a little snack, but no pressure to bring presents.]: *Sometimes people are uncomfortable showing up to an event or party "empty-handed", meaning they don't bring anything. So you can use this phrase to suggest something that they could bring if they wanted, but it's not crucial to the party or event.*

**You're welcome to bring** your favorite beer to the cookout, but we will also have water, tea, and lemonade.

**The more the merrier:** *This phrase means “the more people we have, the more fun we will have!” You say this if you are OK with more people showing up to your party or event, so you can tell the person you are inviting that they can bring a friend, a date, their family, whatever.*

You should bring your family to the barbecue on Saturday—**the more the merrier!**

## Invitation Declined

**Here goes:** *This phrase means “here I go, I’m doing it”; if you’re nervous about something like talking to your boss or asking someone on a date, you might say this to yourself before you begin the conversation.*

**Here goes...** Do you want to go to dinner with me on Saturday?

**Are you free to come?** *This phrase means “Are you available to come to this thing? Do you have plans?”*

**Are you free to come** to the concert next weekend or should I ask someone else?

**I would love to, however...** *As soon as you hear this contradiction, “I would love to, however” you know that the answer is going to be “no”.*

**I would love to** go to the concert, **however**, I have to go to a wedding on Saturday.

**But I would love to get together** [with you guys] **another time:** *This is a way of softening the declined invitation, so you aren’t saying “no” to ever hanging out again. It just means you have to schedule another time.*

I can’t make it to the cookout, **but I would love to get together another time.** How about dinner next Thursday?

**That sounds good:** *This means “yeah, I like that plan, let’s do that” but it isn’t necessarily a hard commitment.*

Yeah, dinner next Thursday **sounds good.** Let me know when and what time.

**Sorry, you can't come, but hopefully....:** *You might say this if someone declines your invitation for something less enjoyable, like work or a funeral or something they aren't looking forward to. You're saying you're sorry they will be missing out on something fun, but hopefully what they have to do instead won't be too bad, you can make other plans, etc.*

**Sorry you can't come** to the concert **but hopefully** the wedding is a lot of fun!

**At some point:** *This is a noncommittal way of making future plans. It's flexible and nonspecific.*

**At some point,** we should all get together and go to Disneyland. It would be so much fun!

**That would be lovely:** *This can be used for an accepted or declined invitation, it just means that you find a plan agreeable, it's something you would like to happen*

A group vacation to Disneyland **would be lovely!**

**What a bummer/bummer** [she can't come]: *This is a common slang term, especially if it is something you were looking forward to or something that is bad news or disappointing*

**What a bummer** that you can't come to Disneyland with us!

**Bummer** you have to work and can't come with us to Disneyland.

## Vanessa's Challenge Question

Use the space below to write a few sentences to **invite me to a party this weekend**:

Sample answer: *Hi Vanessa, I was wondering if, by any chance, you're free on Sunday afternoon. We're going to have a little celebration for my son who just graduated from high school. It will be from 5-7ish, and we'll be ordering pizza for dinner. You're welcome to bring a drink that you like, but we'll have some available here, too.*

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