

Tóm lược (Summary)

Anna visits a friend on her houseboat. She says she wants to live on one. But, is that really a good idea?

Anna tới thăm một người bạn sống trên một con thuyền. Cô nói cô cũng muốn sống như vậy. Nhưng liệu đó có phải là một ý kiến hay không?

Hội thoại (Conversation)

ANNA: Hello, Ms. Weaver!

MS. WEAVER: Oh, Anna. I've **invited** some people to dinner Saturday. We're going to that new seafood restaurant -- Fish on a Dish.

MS. WEAVER: Why don't you join us? My **treat**.

ANNA: Thanks, Ms. Weaver. But I already have plans. My friend has invited me to her **houseboat**.

MS. WEAVER: Houseboat, really? That's unique.

ANNA: Yes, it is. **In fact**, I'm thinking of living on a houseboat.

MS. WEAVER: Aren't you too tall and **klutzy** to live on a houseboat?

ANNA: I am not too tall!

(She knocks over a **display board**.)

PROF. BOT VO: Is Anna *really* ready for a houseboat?

PROF. BOT: Ms. Weaver invited Anna to dinner. When we make friendly, informal invitations, we use phrases like “Why don’t...?”

PROF. BOT: For example, Ms. Weaver said, “Why don’t you join us? My treat!” That’s: Why don’t plus the subject plus the simple form of the verb.

PROF. BOT: Anna responded to the invitation by saying, “Thanks, but I already have plans.” Keep watching for more examples of informal invitations!

FANNY: Anna, I’m so glad you could come!

ANNA: Hi, Fanny!

FANNY: Hi, this is my son, Phoenix.

ANNA: Hi, Phoenix.

FANNY: How about you give Anna a tour and I will make some lunch?

PHOENIX: **Aye, aye, captain!**

FANNY: Great!

ANNA: Do you really call her “captain”?

PHOENIX: I **kind of** have to.

ANNA: So, Phoenix, I think I’d like to live on a houseboat. Do you like living here?

PHOENIX: I love it! It’s much different than living in a house.

ANNA: Oh, I bet. I bet you had to get rid of a lot of stuff, didn't you?

PHOENIX: No way! We moved from a 3-**story** house to a boat! So, we really had to **downsize**!

ANNA: I'd have to get rid of a lot of stuff. I have a rock collection and I have some really big rocks.

ANNA: Can you stop this boat from rocking for a minute?

PHOENIX: No. We're **floating** on water. I can't do that.

ANNA: Well, since you live on the water, aren't you afraid of **great white sharks**?

PHOENIX: No, not really. They don't live in these waters.

ANNA: ... that you know of. What about **killer whales**?

PHOENIX: No.

ANNA: **Electric eels**?

PHOENIX: No.

ANNA: **Barracudas**?

PHOENIX: No.

ANNA: **Piranhas**?

PHOENIX: Uh-uh.

FANNY: You know, Anna, if you're afraid of sea life, maybe you shouldn't live on a houseboat. Do you have any boating experience?

ANNA: Oh, oh yeah, Fanny. I have **battled** the great waters before -- once on a **swan** boat and once in a duck boat ... bus. It was a boat that turned into a bus.

FANNY: Yeah, I don't think that **counts**.

ANNA: Fanny, does this rocking ever bother you?

FANNY: No, I love it. It goes up and down and side to side and up and down. Anna, I love it!

*(Because of the rocking, Anna begins to feel **seasick**.)*

FANNY: Anna, are you feeling okay?

ANNA: Yeah, yeah. You know, I just need some fresh air.

FANNY: Let me open a window for you.

ANNA: No, I need some fresh land air. I mean, I need to breathe air on land. Oh, is that the time? I should really be going.

ANNA: Thanks for lunch, Fanny, and a tour of your houseboat. It's given me a great idea!

FANNY: You're going to live on a houseboat?

ANNA: **Sort of**. Thanks again!

ANNA: Hi! How would you like to hang out on my boat? Great! See you then!

(Ms. Weaver and Anna sit in a boat on land.)

ANNA: ...and this is my shark net.

MS. WEAVER: Thank you for the invitation, Anna.

ANNA: Of course, would you like more **orange juice**?

MS. WEAVER: Uh..

ANNA: (to young man) Ahoy!

Từ ngữ mới (New Words)

accept – v. to receive or take something offered

Aye, aye, captain! – *expression*. A phrase meaning “Yes, sir!” in naval language

barracuda – n. a kind of fierce tropical fish that has strong jaws and sharp teeth

battle – v. to try or struggle very hard to do something

count – v. to be considered or regarded as something

decline – v. to say that you will not or cannot do something

downsize – v. to make something smaller

deck – n. a flat surface that forms the main outside floor of a boat or ship

electric eel – n. an eel-like freshwater fish of South America, using pulses of electricity to kill prey, to assist in navigation, and for defense

fish out of water – *expression*. a person or thing is completely clueless or directionless when put into unfamiliar surroundings or an unfamiliar situation

float – v. to rest on top of a liquid

get rid of – *phrasal verb*. to do something so that you no longer have or are affected by something that is unwanted

great white shark – n. a large aggressive shark of warm seas, with a brownish or gray back, white underparts, and large triangular teeth

houseboat – n. a boat which is or can be moored for use as a house

invite – v. to ask someone to go somewhere or do something
juice – n. the liquid part that can be squeezed out of vegetables and fruits
klutzy – adj. describing a clumsy person
killer whale – n. a black-and-white whale that kills and eats other animals
kind of – *expression*. to some extent
orange – n. a citrus fruit that is round and that has an orange skin
piranha – n. a small South American fish that has sharp teeth and that eats the flesh of animals
respond – v. to say or write something as an answer to a question or request
seasick – adj. feeling sick because of the movement of a boat or ship that you are
swan – n. a large usually white bird that lives on or near water and that has a very long and graceful neck
sort of – *expression*. in some way
story – n. a group of rooms or an area that forms one floor level of a building
treat – v. an occurrence in which you pay for someone's food, drink, or entertainment

Thực hành viết (Writing Practice)

Now, you try it!

Try making invitations! Invite someone to an event or activity. Use the language you learned today. Write your invitations in the comments below.

For example: *Why don't you come to gym with me?*

In English, we make friendly, informal invitations using phrases like:

Why don't + subject + simple verb
"Why don't you join us?" -Ms. Weaver

How about + subject + simple verb
"How about you give Anna a tour...?" -Fannie

Let's + simple verb
"Let's learn English!" -Anna

How would you like to + simple verb
"How would you like to hang out on my boat?" -Anna

A few phrases for **accepting** are:

That's a good/great idea!
That sounds good/great.
Thanks! I'd love to.

A few phrases for **declining** are:

Thanks, but I already have plans.
That's a good idea but...
I'm not sure.

Tự kiểm tra (Test Yourself)

How well do you know the grammar from Level 2? Test yourself!

In today's lesson, you saw examples of grammar from other lessons.
Look for sentences in Lesson 27 that have:

- passive voice
- conditionals
- tag questions
- adverb clauses

We also used many *contractions* -- the short forms of words. Find the contractions and write their meanings in the comments below.

For example, Anna says, "I think I'd like to live on a houseboat." (*I'd* is a contraction. It means *I would*.)

English contractions:

'm = *am*

're = *are*

's = *is* and *has*

'll = *will*

've = *have*

'd = *had* and *would*

Or, just tell us what you think of the lesson. We'd love to hear from you! Write to us in the comments section below.