



# Surprise Party

Conversation > Advanced 7



## Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

<b>confetti</b>	Small pieces of colored paper that people often throw into the air at special events or celebrations.
[noun]	<i>Ex: <b>Confetti</b> fell from the ceiling as the winner was announced.</i>

<b>marvelous</b>	Causing wonder and astonishment, extremely good or great.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: He has a <b>marvelous</b> view from the top.</i>

<b>responsibility</b>	A duty; an obligation.
[noun]	<i>Ex: It was my <b>responsibility</b> to lead the meeting today.</i>

<b>booze</b>	(informal) Alcohol.
[noun]	<i>Ex: He received a fine for drinking <b>booze</b> in public.</i>



<b>venue</b>	A place where people meet for an organized event, for example a concert, sporting event or conference.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Last year's <b>venue</b> was too small, so we will need to find another.</i>

<b>pop into (one's) head</b>	(of a thought, idea or revelation) To occur or form suddenly in someone's mind.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: The idea just <b>popped into the inventor's head</b>.</i>

<b>get down to business</b>	Deal with the important details; begin.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Thank you for meeting with me today. Let's <b>get down to business</b>.</i>



## Exercise 2 – Dialogue

*Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.*

Nate: Okay, Joe. I've bought the confetti and I've just heard back from the venue.

Joe: Really? What did they say, Nate?

Nate: They said our booking is confirmed and it will cost \$150 for the night.

Joe: When the idea popped into your head to throw a party for James I didn't think it would be this expensive.

Nate: I know what you mean. But you know James. He'd never organize a birthday party for himself.

Joe: Why don't we make it a surprise party? It might be the only way we can get James to turn up.

Nate: Awesome! Let's make up some story to trick him into coming, and then everyone can jump out!



Joe: Yeah! We'll have to be careful that he doesn't find out, though.

Nate: You're right. We still have a lot of details to figure out, so let's get down to business.

Joe: I know a really marvelous catering company. We could get them to provide the booze and snacks.

Nate: Okay, great! If you do that, I'll take responsibility for the invitations.

Joe: Okay. Just make sure it's clear on the invitations that it's a surprise party.

Nate: Definitely! We don't want people telling James what we're up to, or he won't come.

Joe: Splendid! Let's get started, Nate.



## Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

*Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.*

### Answer Pool

responsibility

popped into my head

get down to business

confetti

marvelous

booze

venue

1. The orchids grown at this nursery have a \_\_\_\_\_ depth of color.
2. I am in charge of finding a \_\_\_\_\_ for next month's company gathering.
3. My wife says it's my \_\_\_\_\_ to do the dishes.
4. The party's at Kate's on Friday night, bring some \_\_\_\_\_.
5. If the introductions are over I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. At midnight, we all cheered and threw \_\_\_\_\_.
7. I was very lonely that night and that idea just \_\_\_\_\_.



## Exercise 4 – Role Play

*Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.*

**Scene:** You are throwing a party for your sibling. Ask your friend Luke to help you plan the party and suggest what he could do to help. The teacher can be Luke.



## Exercise 5 – Discussion

*Discuss the following questions with your tutor.*

1. Have you ever thrown a surprise party? If not, would you like to? For whom?
2. In your opinion, how many people should be invited to a birthday party? Why?
3. Would you ever host a big party in the future? Why? Why not?
4. Some people say that “a party without music is not a party.” Do you agree? Why? Why not?
5. Do you think that themed parties are more fun? Why? Why not?