Friendships

What makes friendships work?

"Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down."

— **Oprah Winfrey**

Friendships

Statistically, the number of friends we have, reduce as we age. We usually have lots of friends as children, many as teenagers, several close friends in our 20s and 30s and often fewer friends when our jobs or careers require more commitment, as we enter relationships, marry or have children. More than often, the older we get, the fewer friends we have.

Do you agree? Why do you think this happens? Discuss in groups.

A. Discuss these questions

1. What qualities are necessary for successful friendships? Name your top three.
    e.g. trustworthiness, honesty, dependability, loyalty, the ability to trust others, humour – what other qualities are important to you?

2. Do you prefer to have many friends or just a few that you are close to?

3. What are the benefits of having just a few close friends?

4. What are the benefits of having many friends?

5. Are there disadvantages of having many friends?

6. Are you still close friends with anyone who you knew in primary/elementary school?

7. What is the biggest thing a friend has done to help you?

8. Do you have friends who would risk their life to save you?

9. Would you risk your life to save a friend?

10. Do you think sites like Facebook are good for friendships or do they stop people from becoming close?

B. Idioms related to Friendship
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1. **Like two peas in a pod**
   Two people or things that are very similar to each other

2. **To be as thick as thieves**
   To be very close or friendly

3. **To bury the hatchet**
   Make peace; end a quarrel, settle one's differences to become friends again.

4. **To clear the air**
   Get rid of all doubts and negative feelings.

5. **A shoulder to cry on**
   Someone who listens to your problems

C. Homework   (Never compulsory but good for your practice)

Make one sentence with each idiom above. Write them in WhatsApp.