

# UNIT 2

## Cherishing Friendship

### GRAMMAR IN USE

Section A Read a story about the author's special experience of being ill abroad. Fill in the blanks with the proper form of the given words to make it coherent and grammatically correct.

### Good Luck Abroad



I was turning 70, and just as I was deciding how to celebrate, a brochure arrived from a seniors' travel company about a tour of the UK and Ireland. It was perfect to visit the birthplaces of my grandparents, Yorkshire and Connemara, where I'd always longed (1) to go (go).

The tour started off well in London with a sightseeing tour and a Thames boat trip. However, the next morning I began to feel unwell. I ~~was~~ admitted to Warwick Hospital and needed (2) to place (place) on an antibiotic drip. On regaining consciousness, I realised with horror that the tour had gone ahead and I had no one (3) to contact (contact) for help. Thankfully, a gentleman was found by the kind nurse (4) visiting (visit) another female patient next to my bed. They introduced themselves as Sue and Roger Bliss and offered to help me. From that moment the couple were my guardian angels, making sure I had everything I needed. They recommended me (5) not to leave (not leave) the hotel in their hometown. Each morning they came with magazines, books and special treats. When I was well enough, they took me to see places of historical interest. At dinner on the night before my flight home, I spoke of a friend in New Zealand who over the years had been there (6) listening (listen), advise and assist whenever needed, and how much this meant to me. I explained he was a retired surgeon. Sue suddenly exclaimed "Anne?" They happened (7) to meet (meet) years ago and had been friends for years.

long to do sth  
= to desire to do sth

not admit doing sth  
be admitted to sth

physician  
surgeon

Notes

Section B How can friendship contribute to our happiness?  
Read the passage and complete the tasks.

Notes

Task 1. Jack has written a passage about happiness and friendship and hopes to have it published in the *English Post*. Help him correct the mistakes. Each indicated line contains an error.



### Happiness and Friendship

There are lots of things that can contribute to happiness and fulfillment, and they vary with each individual. A 75-year-long study reveals that one common element (is believed playing) a vital role in most people's genuine, longstanding happiness. The study started at Harvard University in 1938 with 724 men, 60 of whom are still alive today. It is considered (being) the longest ongoing study on human happiness. After decades of observation, one of the study's leaders, Robert Waldinger, (came to this conclusion) good relationships keep us happier and healthier.

That's right, friends. Some people may falsely think that millions of dollars (have to make) so that they can be happy. But to be happy is as simple as building a strong relationship with a few people whose general presence you appreciate. Perhaps it is in some countries that loneliness (hadn't reached epidemic) levels, but here in America, making and holding onto friends is much easier said than (done). Americans tell themselves (to develop) a deep friendship before they get to know the counterpart better.

According to a new study, (making) new friends (are) incredibly difficult for Americans. In fact, the average American has not made a new friend in five years. Sure, you (happened to make) some casual connections in the past few years, but we're talking about someone you'd want to hang out at least every week. The study surveyed 2,000 Americans. While 45% said they had no problem going out of their way to make new friends, (but) when it came to actually taking action, things like work, family and a lack of hobbies are often a drag on them. Still, you need to step out of the comfort zone. A potential friend (is sure waiting) for you right now.

- (1) to play
- (2) is
- (3) has to come that
- (4) not to be made
- (5) hasn't reached
- (6) to do
- (7) to make us
- (8) have
- (9) that
- (10) is sure waiting



## READING AND VIEWING

**Section A** Read the passage that explains friendship from a scientific perspective. Fill in each blank with a proper sentence given in the box. Each sentence can be used only once. Note that there are two more sentences than you need.

- A. If there is tremendous evolutionary value in social attachment, could we be born to develop friendships?
- B. When it comes to the spread of infection, that makes sense.
- C. It is possible that individuals who smell things in the same way are drawn to similar environments.
- D. Half of these were loving; the rest contained factual statements about the participant.
- E. So if we know why we seek social connection and with whom, then what keeps us together?
- F. It turns out birds of a feather don't just flock together — they actually resemble each other genetically.

### Making Connections

In the last 25 years, numerous scientific studies and reviews have shown us what, exactly, friends are for: they reduce our risk of death in half, double our chances of recovering from depression and make us 4.2 times less likely to fall victim to the common cold.  
(1) E Recent neurological research suggests that's the case.

#### It Literally Makes You Feel Warm

Naomi Eisenberger, a professor of social psychology, wanted to know if there was any literal truth to the language we use to describe social connection — that, for example, it makes us feel warm-hearted. For a study conducted last year, she had half the participants hold a heat pack and half hold an unheated ball. Unsurprisingly, members of the former group showed more neural activity in brain regions that detect and reward physical warmth. Then she gathered messages from the participants' families and friends. (2) F When the participants, who were being monitored by way of a brain scan, read the

loving messages for the first time, "the same neural regions were active as with the heat packs," Eisenberger says. "We know how important it is to have relationships, and we are borrowing from those brain regions that are associated with warmth to signal to us when we feel connected."

#### It Is Written in Your Genes

- (3) A That's the remarkable finding of a recent study. Researchers from Yale University and the University of California examined 1.5 million genetic markers from 1932 subjects who were divided into two groups of unrelated friends and unrelated strangers, and they discovered that close friends are like fourth cousins — those who share great-great-great-grandparents — in genetic make-up. More interestingly, friends have significantly different immune systems.  
(4) E It's nice to have company. It's even nicer if that company doesn't leave you with a deadly disease.

**Section B** Read the passage and see how an accident scarred one teenager's face but left no scratch on a friendship, and then complete the tasks.

### The Gift of Forgiveness

The summer when I turned 16, my father gave me his old car, a gift wasted on me at that age. What did I know about classic cars? The important thing was that Hannah and I could drive around the town with the top down.

Hannah was my best friend, a year younger but much taller, almost five foot ten. "Hannah's a knockout," my mother always said. And sure enough, that summer she signed with a modelling agency. She was already doing catalog and runway work.

A month after my birthday, Hannah and I went to the cinema. On the way home, we stopped at a fast-food restaurant, putting the fries on the



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While hanging out with Hannah, I suggested I ride around after stopping at a restaurant.

I received a car as a birthday present from my father.

However, Sharon — Hannah's mother — reassured me that she and Hannah would forgive me and that we could still

be best friends hang out together

While driving, I took a curve too fast and lost control of the car.

When the car finally came to a stop, both Hannah and I it was hurt

Hannah and I were able to stay friends for many years; I also grew to be more forgiving when wronged, all thanks to Sharon.

As a result of the injury, Hannah could no longer do modeling. I felt so guilty that I didn't know what to say.

Task 2. Choose the best answers to the questions.

- (C) 1. The author had expected Sharon to be \_\_\_\_\_ before they met at the hospital.
- A. relieved that both the young girls were still alive
  - B. guilty of not being there to protect the two girls
  - C. angry with the author for having caused the disaster
  - D. disappointed at her for not being a good friend
- (A) 2. The phrase **window dressing** in paragraph 8 most probably means something \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. inessential
  - B. unsatisfactory
  - C. undesirable
  - D. misleading
- (17) 3. In the years after the accident, the author \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. worried that the scars on Hannah's forehead were still visible
  - B. doubted whether Sharon and Hannah had truly forgiven her
  - C. refused to show up on grand occasions of Hannah's life
  - D. learned to become a more forgiving person when wronged