

- G** uses of the infinitive
- V** verbs + infinitive: *try to, forget to, etc.*
- P** weak form of *to*, linking

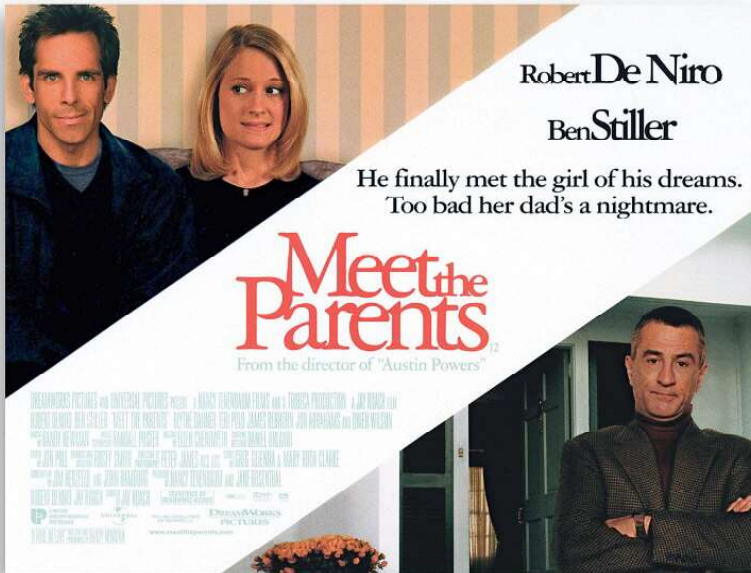
# 7A How to...

What do I need to do?

It's important not to be late.

## 1 READING & LISTENING

- a Look at the poster of a well-known movie. Do you know what it's about? Have you seen it?



- b With a partner, think of two pieces of advice for somebody who is going to meet his or her partner's parents for the first time.
- c Now read an article adapted from the website *wikiHow*. Is your advice there?
- d Read the article again and fill in the blanks with the verbs in the list.

to answer not to be ˌtəʊðə (x2) to have to know to make to say to show not to talk

- e **3 23**) Listen to Nico meeting his girlfriend's parents for the first time. Does the meeting start well or badly? How does it end?
- f Listen again and answer the questions.
- 1 What does he do wrong?
  - 2 What does he do right?
- g Do you think the advice in the article would be good for people in your country? Why (not)? Do you think the advice would be the same for a girl meeting her boyfriend's parents for the first time?

## How to... Survive Meeting Your Girlfriend's Parents for the First Time

It's stressful, but these top tips can help you to get it right...

### Tips

- 1 **You need to do** some "homework" before you go. Ask your girlfriend about her parents. Where does her mother work? Does her father like basketball? Do you have any common interests? If you do this, it will be easy to have a conversation with them.
- 2 **Make sure you dress** to make the right impression. Don't wear a suit, but don't just wear your old jeans and the Che Guevara T-shirt you bought at the flea market.
- 3 **Be punctual.** It's very important not to be late for a first meeting.
- 4 **When they greet you at the door** shake the father's hand firmly (no father likes a weak handshake!). Ask your girlfriend what kind of greeting her mom will prefer.
- 5 **Call her parents Mr. and Mrs.** (Smith) until they ask you to call them "Dave" and "Maria."
- 6 **Be ready** to answer questions about yourself! Her parents will want to know everything about you and your ambitions. Make a good impression!
- 7 **If you are invited for a meal**, eat everything they give you and say something positive about the meal, like "This is absolutely delicious!" Offer to show the dishes after the meal (to help them that you are helpful).
- 8 **Be yourself**, and don't be a "yes" man. If they ask you for your opinion, be honest. However, try not to talk about controversial subjects – this isn't the moment to give your views on religion and politics!
- 9 **If the conversation is dying** and you can't think of what to say, ask them what your partner was like as a child. This is a smart tactic! All parents love talking about their children, and it shows you have a deep interest in their daughter.

Adapted from wikiHow



## 2 GRAMMAR

uses of the infinitive

- a Match sentences a–d from the article with rules 1–4.
- a  If you do this, it will be easy **to have** a conversation with them.
- b  Offer **to do** the dishes after the meal (**to show** them that you are helpful).
- c  If the conversation is dying and you can't think of what **to say**, ask them what your partner was like as a child.
- d  You need **to do** some "homework" before you go.

**Use the infinitive...**

- 1 after some verbs, e.g., *need, want*, etc.
  - 2 after adjectives
  - 3 to give a reason for doing something
  - 4 after a question word, e.g., *who, what, how*
- b Look at the other infinitives you used to complete the article. Which rules are they?
- c ➤ **p.138 Grammar Bank 7A.** Learn more about uses of the infinitive and practice them.

## 3 VOCABULARY verbs + infinitive

- a Without looking back at the article, try to remember the missing verbs.
- 1 You \_\_\_\_\_ to do some homework before you go.
  - 2 Her parents will \_\_\_\_\_ to know everything about you and your ambitions.
  - 3 \_\_\_\_\_ to do the dishes after the meal...
  - 4 However, \_\_\_\_\_ not to talk about controversial subjects...
- b ➤ **p.158 Vocabulary Bank Verb forms.** Do part 1 (Verbs + infinitive).

## 4 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING

weak form of *to*, linking

- a (326)) Listen to two sentences. Is *to* stressed? How is it pronounced?

I want to come.  
He decided to leave.



### Linking words with the same consonant sound

When a word ends in a consonant sound and the next word begins with the same or a very similar sound, we often link the words together and only make the consonant sound once. This happens when a verb ends in /t/ or /d/ before *to*, so *want to* is pronounced /'wʌntə/ and *decided to* is pronounced /dɪ'saɪdətə/.

- b (327)) Listen and write six sentences. Then practice saying them.
- c Work in pairs. **A** ask **B** the first six questions. **B** give as much information as you can. Change roles for the last six questions.

- Have you ever offered to look after somebody's dog (or other pet)?
- Do you think it is difficult to stay friends with an ex-boyfriend/girlfriend?
- Have you ever tried to learn something new and failed?
- Do you think it is important to learn to cook at school?
- How long do you usually spend deciding what to wear in the morning?
- Do you know how to change a tire on a car?

- Do you think it's possible to learn a foreign language studying on your own at home?
- Are you planning to go anywhere next weekend?
- Would you like to work or study in another country?
- Have you ever pretended to be sick (when you weren't)?
- Have you ever forgotten to turn off your cell phone during a class or concert?
- What do you think is the most interesting thing to do for a visitor to your town?

- d ➤ **Communication How to...** A p.103 B p.107. Read and retell two more *How to...* articles.

## 5 WRITING

With a partner, write a "How to..." article. Choose one of the titles below and try to think of at least four tips.

**How to...**

- make a good impression on your first day in your English class.
- make a good impression at a job interview.

