

1 Complete the text with appropriate words from the box. There are eight extra words.

booking bath hunt venue retirement gathering put blanket sport scream
 invitations send loner engage big fond seek search turn taking relatives

HOW TO AVOID A PARTY DISASTER?

Make the ¹_____ well in advance. Finding a nice club or restaurant for a party just two weeks beforehand may be difficult, so make sure that you book earlier. If you are thinking of an outdoor ²_____ like a park or a garden, make sure you have a 'plan B' in case it pours down with rain. ³_____ together the guest list carefully. Make sure you're happy with who is coming. A wet ⁴_____ complaining about everything from the food and music to the air conditioning, may ruin any get-together.

Double check the dates and times you have written on your ⁵_____ before you ⁶_____ them out. You don't want your guests turning up on the wrong day.

One man's meat is another man's poison. Don't make a ⁷_____ or shy person ⁸_____ in group activities. The fact that you are ⁹_____ on dancing doesn't necessarily mean that all the guests will be happy to take part in your twist competition. Also, tug-of-war or scavenger ¹⁰_____ may be interesting birthday ideas for kids but a bit less so when it comes to 70 year-olds at a ¹¹_____ party. If you have an extended family, don't get trapped into inviting all your ¹²_____ to your family ¹³_____. Too many people makes it hardly possible to create a warm but low-key atmosphere.

2 Think of some pieces of good advice on how to be a perfect guest. Discuss your ideas in pairs.

3 Choose the correct option to complete the text.



20 MINUTES BEFORE THE PARTY

I feel like ¹*to burst / bursting* into tears. I ²*have roasted / have been roasting* the turkey for five hours now and it's still raw. The party starts in a few minutes and I'm completely unprepared, running around the kitchen, with smudges of cranberry sauce on my face. And my sister? It's her who made me ³*throw / to throw* the party in the first place. I wouldn't have decided ⁴*to have / having* a go at it if she hadn't promised ⁵*helping / to help* me. And where is she now? She ⁶*must be still sitting / must still sit* in her bathroom, selecting the best eyeshade colour or doing something equally important. Maybe she ⁷*forgot / has forgotten* about the party altogether. The bell! It ⁸*must / can't* be her, at last. Oh, no! It's Ben – Sara's brother. I hardly know Ben. I don't even remember ⁹*to invite / inviting* him to my party.

TWO DAYS AFTER THE PARTY

I don't regret ¹⁰*having / to have* the party at all. Ben taught me ¹¹*to make / making* a perfect turkey. Contrary ¹²*to / from* appearances, he turned out to be a good ¹³*sport / scream*. Actually, I have never met such a(n) ¹⁴*approachable / reproachable* guy before. All the guests were delighted. Sara suggested that I should consider ¹⁵*becoming / to become* a professional cook in the future. My sister arrived late. Apparently, she had stopped ¹⁶*to buy / buying* me a small present at the nearby shopping centre and had bumped into her old friend from primary school. Needless to say, they couldn't help ¹⁷*having / to have* a short chat on the good old days. Anyway, the party was really great. We had a great ¹⁸*laugh / smile* playing word games and doing salsa dancing. We made a ¹⁹*night / morning* of it. And I overheard some girls ²⁰*whisper / to whisper* something about me and Ben.

4 Write sentences about what *might / must* have happened or what *might / must* be happening in the situations below. Use the prompts provided and come up with one more sentence for each example.

- 1 The wedding ceremony is supposed to start in five minutes. The groom hasn't arrived yet.

He / have an accident. He must / might have had an accident.

He / decide not to get married. _____

- 2 All the guests have left the party earlier than planned.

The party / be boring. _____

The host / run out of food and drink. _____

- 3 Your neighbour is kneeling behind the bush in his garden.

He / play hide and seek with his children. _____

He / lose something when trimming the bushes and now he is looking for it. _____