

# It's my birthday

## Introduction

- **Level:** B1
- **Skills:** Speaking, Listening
- **Topics:** Grammar – Be going to Future
- **Merging subjects:** Creative thinking, problem-solving, critical thinking

## The enigma

- **Keyword**

Students listen to a dialogue and then do a multiple-choice exercise. They have to decipher their answers in order to reveal the answer.

- **Toolbox**

computer, worksheet, party hat

- **Description of the enigma**

The teacher has put a party hat somewhere in the room. Inside the hat there is a note guiding students to play track number 3 from the folder “Let’s Party” in the computer. The teacher has recorded a dialogue between two friends. One of them is inviting the other to the birthday party she is having.

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The dialogue is the following:

Hi, Jane. How are you?

Hi, Peter. Fine, thanks. It's my birthday tomorrow.

Really? Do you have any plans for your birthday?

Well, in the morning I'm going to go shopping with my parents in the new shopping mall. They are going to buy me a present for my birthday.

Are you going to have lunch together?

Yes, my sister is going to join us for lunch. She is going to take the day-off tomorrow to be with us.

Where are you going to have lunch?

Well, we're going to the new Italian restaurant opposite the cinema. I'm going to have my favourite pizza.

Oh, that's great. Do you have any plans for the afternoon?

Yes, we're going to visit the theme park. I love going on exciting rides! Would you like to come with us?

That would be great. But I'm afraid I can't. We are going to rehearse for the concert on Sunday.

Oh, I see. What about tomorrow evening then? I'm going to have a party at my house. Lots of students from our school are going to come. Do you think you will make it?

I'd love to! Thank you very much. I'll see you tomorrow evening. I'll leave a present birthday for you in the cupboard.

In the cupboard or any other place that the teacher will specify in the dialogue the teacher has left a worksheet with the following multiple-choice exercise:



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Jane is going to go shopping with  
her parents  
her sister

Jane is going to have lunch  
in an Italian restaurant  
in the shopping mall

In the afternoon, Jane is going to go to  
a theme park  
a birthday party

Peter can't go with Jane because he is going to  
practice his guitar  
rehearse for a concert



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The next thing students have to do is to reveal the code. For this purpose, the teacher has hung on the wall the following chart.

a	4
b	7
c	3
d	9
e	5
f	4
g	2
h	8

**Solution:** 1-a, 2-c, 3-e, 4-h

CODE: 4 3 5 8

This is the code students will use to unlock the lock.

## Hints

When students do the multiple-choice exercise, they won't have access to the dialogue. If, however, the teacher finds that they do not remember what they have heard and have to listen to it again, s/he can let them listen to it once again.

In case students get stuck, the teacher might ask guiding questions such as the following: "Have you searched for the file?" "Where will Peter leave the birthday present for Jane?", "Is there anything on the wall that might help you?".



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## More information

## Possible restrictions

Listening can be a difficult task for all students, especially for students with hearing difficulties. Also, the fonts in the worksheet and the table should be big enough so that students with reading difficulties are able to read them.