

COLÉGIO PIO XI

ATIVIDADE DE LÍNGUA INGLESA

TEACHER: ROGER

3º ANOS ENS MEDIO

ATIVIDADE REFERENTE A UNIDADE 1

1 Skim the article. An appropriate title for the article would be ...

- A How to make friends
- B The importance of friends
- C How we choose our friends
- D What is a friend?
- E Friends and family

1	<b>A</b>	In this age of mass communication, it is easy to have very large numbers of friends. If you ask the average teenager how many friends they have, they may well give an answer in the hundreds. The conversation becomes more interesting if you ask what people mean by a “friend”. Who should we call a friend?
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	<b>B</b>	For most of us, the definition of a friend is fairly broad, ranging from someone you chat with occasionally online to the old faithful friends you turn to in times of need and share your most secret feelings with. The ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle defined three different kinds of friends: friends of utility, who help each other; friends of pleasure, who have fun together; and friends of virtue, who try to make each other better people. It is true that friends can have very different roles in our lives. There are the friends that you’ve known for a long time. You might not have much in common with them now, and they may be critical or sarcastic, or have other qualities that you don’t like, but although you have your ups and downs, you are still bound to them by the past, and you’re unlikely to break off the friendship. Then there are people you see regularly in social situations, say, in a sports team or at an art class. You might chat about day-to-day things with them, but know very little about their life. Finally, there are our few “good friends”, people we feel particularly close to and feel we can trust with our most personal thoughts and feelings.
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	<b>C</b>	But how do we choose our friends? We certainly don’t plan it. We don’t wake up one morning and think: I need a group of twenty friends in my life, how am I going to find them? If we did this, we might then target suitable people and send out invitations. But it doesn’t happen like that. Some of our friends lived close to us, others shared an interest, such as sports, and over time we got to know them better. Did we choose them, or is it all down to chance?
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	<b>D</b>	A group of researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University in the US think they may have found the answer by showing that a combination of

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genes and family environment determines how we choose our friends. The researchers regularly interviewed more than a thousand male twins as they moved from mid-childhood to early adulthood. Given that twins share exactly the same genes, it was possible to see how people who are identical genetically behave when they are in different environments. The study found that as the twins developed their own social groups away from their family, genetics played an increasingly important part in their choices. The results led the researchers to conclude that people who are genetically more inclined to being gregarious tend to gather more friends around them, and choose people who are similar to themselves. People who are naturally more reserved tend to choose people on the basis of shared interests, rather than personality. However, the researchers believe that not everything is down to genetics. Environment also plays a part. Children with parents with a wide circle of friends are more likely to have a lot of active friendships themselves, whatever their personality type, which suggests that spending time with friends is a learned behavior. So, if this study is right, although we may feel we're in control when it comes to our friends, it might be that our genes are doing the choosing without us even realizing it.

### Glossary

- circle (of friends) (*n*) a group of people who you know well and like, and who are not usually members of your family
- gene (*n*) a unit inside a cell which controls a particular quality in a living thing that has been passed on from its parents
- inclined (*v*) likely to do something
- role (*n*) the function or position that someone is expected to have in an organization, in society, or in a relationship
- virtue (*n*) behavior or attitudes that show high moral standards

**2 Read the article again. Choose the best heading 1–5 for each paragraph A–D. There is one extra heading.**

- 1 All in the genes?                   —
- 2 What is a friend?                   —
- 3 Friends or acquaintances?       —
- 4 How many friends?               —
- 5 Just by chance?                   —

**3 According to the article, which sentence is NOT true?**

- A** Most young people nowadays have a lot of friends.

- B** Aristotle believed that there were different categories of friends.
- C** Some people plan how to get new friends.
- D** The researchers studied a large number of twin brothers.
- E** The study found that our genes affect how we choose our friends.

**4 Read the article again. Choose the correct answers.**

- 1** According to the text, most people ...
  - A** wouldn't call people they chat to online friends.
  - B** only value old faithful friends.
  - C** consider a lot of different kinds of people to be their friends.
  - D** have three kinds of friends.
  - E** share their feelings with all their friends.
- 2** Aristotle ...
  - A** only chose good people to be his friends.
  - B** tried to explain the relationships we have with our friends.
  - C** was interested in helping people make more friends.
  - D** believed that people who had a lot of friends were better people.
  - E** encouraged people to have different kinds of friends.
- 3** According to the author of the article, ...
  - A** twenty friends is a good number to have.
  - B** some people invite others to be their friends.
  - C** most people seem to collect friends in an unplanned way.
  - D** most of our friends are people who live near us.
  - E** we get on better with our friends if we share an interest with them.
- 4** The researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University ...
  - A** studied twins from when they were children until they were adults.
  - B** moved twins away from their families to study them.
  - C** studied twins who had large social groups.
  - D** studied twins for a year during their childhood.
  - E** only compared gregarious and reserved people.
- 5** The study found that ...
  - A** our behavior is completely controlled by our genes.
  - B** genes influence our behavior more when we are younger.
  - C** some children never manage to form their own social groups.
  - D** genes and environment both influence our behavior.
  - E** our environment influences our behavior more when we leave home.

**5 Find words 1–6 in the article. Match them with definitions A–F.**

- |                       |   |                     |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1 broad (line 4)      | — | A have an effect on |
| 2 utility (line 6)    | — | B connected         |
| 3 bound (line 11)     | — | C general           |
| 4 target (line 18)    | — | D knowing           |
| 5 determine (line 22) | — | E usefulness        |
| 6 realizing (line 35) | — | F choose            |

**6 The phrase “turn to” (line 5) means ...**

- A look for.
- B look after.
- C give advice to.
- D go to for help or advice.
- E reject.

**7 We can infer from the article that the author thinks ...**

- A friendship is very important.
- B it's better to have just a few good friends.
- C we like to think that we choose our friends, but maybe this isn't true.
- D we should value old friends especially.
- E we should put more thought into choosing our friends.

**8 Answer the questions in your own words.**

- 1 How does the writer explain the fact that we have some friends who we don't have much in common with?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2 How does the writer define a good friend?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 In what ways do gregarious and reserved people differ in the way they choose their friends?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4 According to the research, how does our home environment play a part in the way that we choose our friends?

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**AS QUESTÕES A SEGUIR ENVOLVEM A LETRA DA MÚSICA , “Friday I’m in Love” – The Cure”, UTILIZE A INTERNET COMO FONTE DE PESQUISA PARA A CANÇÃO.**

**SONG:** “Friday I’m in Love” – The Cure

**LINK PARA VISUALIZAÇÃO DO VÍDEO:** <http://goo.gl/MXoX5>

9. Put the letters in the correct order to write the correct day of the week.

a) D D Y A E W N S E: \_\_\_\_\_

b) R A Y D H S T U: \_\_\_\_\_

c) S Y U T A E D: \_\_\_\_\_

d) Y S N U A D: \_\_\_\_\_

e) I D Y R F A: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Choose T for true or F for false.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| a) The singer loves Fridays.  | T | F |
| b) The colors mentioned in the song are “happy” colors.             | T | F |
| c) Except for Friday, the other days of the week are not important. | T | F |
| d) For the singer, the whole weekend is exciting.                   | T | F |