

The Ultimate Celebration Planner

Life Events and Milestones

PART 01 Warm-Up Activity

Look at the following events. Which one is the most important to celebrate in your culture? Why?

- Getting a promotion at work.
- Buying a first home.
- A 30th wedding anniversary.
- Retiring after 40 years of work.

PART 02 The Scenario

You are members of a "Social Committee" at a large company. A very popular colleague, Mr. Henderson, is experiencing three major life events at the same time: he is celebrating his 40th work anniversary, he is finally retiring, and he just became a grandfather! Your committee must plan a single "Triple Celebration" event for him.

The Proposals:

- **Option A: The Office Party.** Low budget, held in the breakroom, speeches from the CEO, and a "Best Wishes" book signed by everyone.
- **Option B: The Formal Dinner.** High budget, held at a local hotel, families invited, professional catering, and a formal toast to the "newly retired" grandfather.
- **Option C: The Activity Day.** Medium budget, a relaxed BBQ in the park, casual dress, and games for his new grandson to attend.

Roles:

THE TASK & GOAL

Plan the perfect celebration and prepare a short speech to give at the event.

1. Review the three options and choose the one that best fits Mr. Henderson's milestones.
2. Decide on the schedule for the event (when to give the speech, when to eat, etc.).
3. Write a short 4-sentence speech that includes at least three phrases from the "Useful Language Box."
4. Present your plan and speech to the other committee members.

IMPORTANT: The section must end with

ROLES & PERSPECTIVES

A: THE COORDINATOR

You prefer Option B. You think Mr. Henderson deserves a very formal "Well done" after 40 years. You are in charge of the schedule.

B: THE BUDGET MANAGER

You prefer Option A or C. You want to save money but still want to make sure everyone says "All the best" to him. You are in charge of the guest list.

REFERENCE Useful Language

CONGRATULATIONS	WELL-WISHES	REACTING TO NEWS
I hear congratulations are in order!	All the best for your retirement.	I'm so proud of you!
Here's to the man of the hour!	Here's to another 40 years!	Your very own place at last!
Well done on the promotion/milestone!	Let me know if there's anything I can do.	Isn't it/he/she beautiful!

PLANNING & NOTES

Plan your dialogue here

PART 03 Reflection

1. Which phrase from the "Useful Language Box" was the most difficult to use naturally?
2. In your opinion, is it better to have a formal or an informal celebration for a retirement?

The Ultimate Celebration Planner

Target language practice.



TIME

30 MINS

OBJECTIVE

To use functional language for life events in a collaborative planning scenario.



GRAMMAR FOCUS

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE
FOR CONGRATULATIONS
AND WELL-WISHES

- I hear congratulations are in order
- All the best for your retirement
- I'm so sorry for your loss.

KEY VOCABULARY

PROMOTION

NEWLYWEDS

RETIREMENT

MILESTONE

ANNIVERSARY

Procedure

1. **Warmer (5 mins):** Elicit the life events from the worksheet and ask students which they have experienced recently.
2. **The Task (15 mins):** Divide students into pairs or small groups. They must negotiate which "Option" to choose for Mr. Henderson. Monitor for the use of the target phrases. Ensure they are writing the short speech.
3. **Feedback (10 mins):** Have each group perform their "Speech" for the class. Correct pronunciation of "congratulations" and "anniversary."