

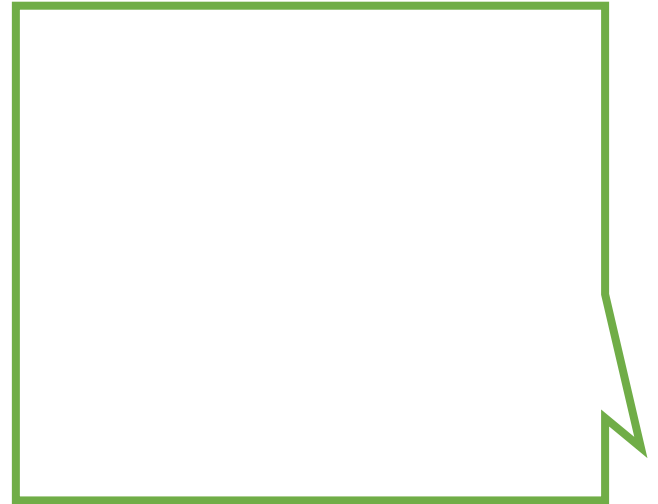
Textploitation

Today, we are going to:

- Read a text message conversation.
- Learn to write text messages.
- Learn to talk/write about your plans.
- Learn to refuse an invite politely.
- Learn to ask questions about an invite politely.

So that you can:

- Have a text message conversation (e.g. inviting / refusing / asking)



Introduction

Discuss the questions below with your partner.

1. What have you written today?
2. Which do you write most in your life, messages, emails, stories, essays?
3. What are you doing this weekend?

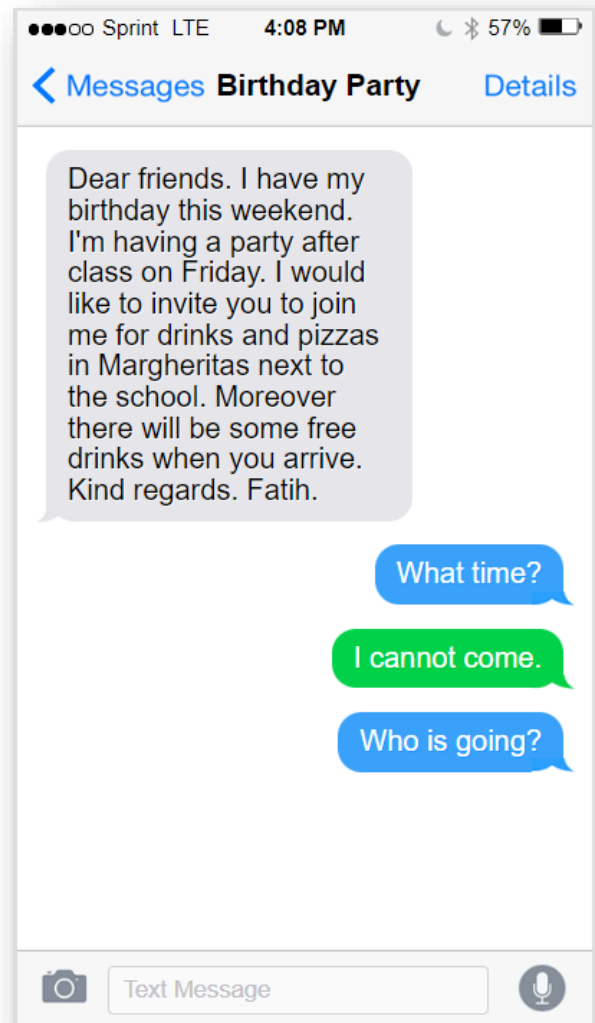
React to the text

Read the conversation to the right and discuss the questions below with your partner.

- 1) Would you like to join Fatih?
- 2) Why / Why not?
- 3) Is there any other information you'd like to know?
- 4) Write your reply in the green box above.

Focus on Language

- 1) Why does Fatih use the present continuous in this sentence: "I'm having a party on Friday"?
- 2) What are your plans for this weekend?



Analysing a message

Text messages are an example of written spoken-English. Read the conversation again and discuss the questions below with your partner.

- 1) How would you communicate Fatih's message if you were speaking in person?
- 2) Compare your ideas with Fatih's message. What is different?
- 3) How would you feel if you were Fatih and you received these replies?
- 4) Read the Text Conversation Analysis to check your ideas.

Text Conversation Analysis:

- Fatih's text message seems more like an email than a text message. Messages should be more like spoken English than written English. When you're writing a message to friends, avoid formal language and email openers and closings.
- "What time?" is quite a sudden question. Usually we would start with a comment on the party and then ask questions.
- Usually when we can't attend an event we reply by apologizing and giving a reason. For example "I'm sorry. I can't come. I'm having dinner with my parents". We use the present continuous to show that it is a fixed plan that was organized before.

Practice 1

Read the conversation below. Use the Text Conversation Analysis to analyse the conversation.

1. Is there anything you would change?
2. Write a reply politely saying that you can't come.
3. Write another reply politely asking for more information.

Practice 2

Have a conversation with your partner. In the conversation:

- Explain your plans (using present continuous).
- Invite your partner(s) to join you.
- Turn down invites politely (apologizing and giving excuses with present continuous).
- Ask for more information politely (comment on the event & ask for information).

Reflection

How did you do? Use the criteria above to reflect on how successful you were in your conversation.

