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Unit 1 Relationships

- **Work in pairs. Look at the photo and the caption. Choose the phrase you think best describes the photo.**
- a faithful companion blood relatives
- a passing acquaintance mutual respect a strong bond true friends an odd couple
- **Look at these English sayings about relationships. What do they mean? Do you have a similar saying in your language?**
- Blood is thicker than water
- A friend in need is a friend indeed
- Like father, like son
- No man is an island



Vocabulary Notes

- '**Blood is thicker than water**' = family relationships and loyalties are the strongest and most important ones
- '**A friend in need is a friend indeed**' = a friend who helps you when you really need help is a true friend
- '**Like father, like son**' = you can expect a son's personality or behavior to be similar to that of his father
- '**No man is an island**' = nobody is self-sufficient – people need the company and support of other people (this is a quote from a poem by the sixteenth century English poet John Donne)

Vocabulary notes

a faithful companion = a companion is someone you spend time with, perhaps on a journey, and 'faithful' means that this is a friend who will always be there to help and support you

blood relatives = people who are related by 'blood' (i.e. genetically), e.g. your father or daughter, but not your wife or mother-in-law

a passing acquaintance = an acquaintance is someone you know, but not very well – 'passing', here, means for a short time (e.g. someone you meet on holiday or on a journey)

mutual respect = when two people feel similar admiration for each other and treat each other politely and kindly

a strong bond = a very close relationship

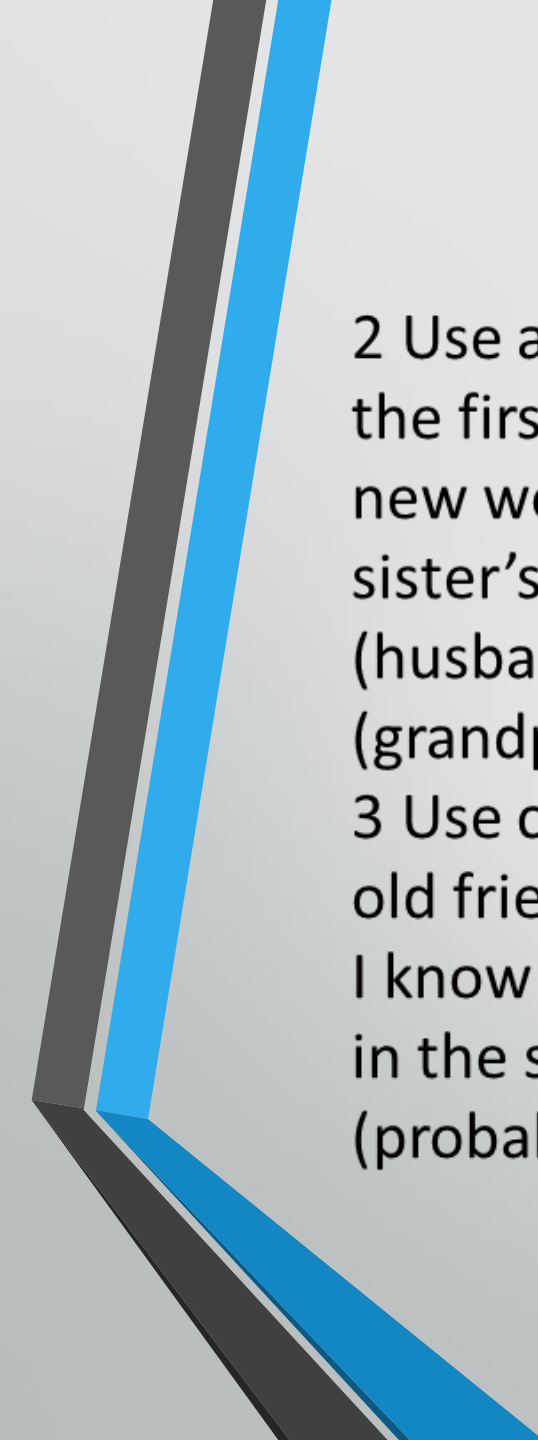
true friends = friends who will always be together and will always support each other

Checking new words

Instead of asking using dictionaries or translation
when checking the meaning of new words, use some of
the following techniques:

1 Put the new word in a sentence to provide context:

My fiancé and I have been engaged for six months and we're getting
married in November. / Joe is a colleague
at work – we are in the same department, but he's not a
friend.



2 Use a synonym, antonym or hyponym. You could say the first part of the sentence and elicit the missing new word (shown in brackets) from the class: My sister's husband is my (wife); Jill's my wife and I'm her (husband); My grandmother and grandfather are my (grandparents).

3 Use concept check questions instead of definitions: an old friend – Have I known him for a long time? (yes) Do I know him very well? (probably); a flatmate – Do I live in the same place with him? (yes) Do we share the rent? (probably, but not necessarily).

Extra Activity

- Talk about important relationships in your life . For example with:

a husband

a fiancé

a colleague

an old friend

a brother

a grandparent

- Think of a person a) you have been meaning to contact for ages; and b) you have shared a travel experience with. Tell your partner about these people.