

..... 19. Be a Good Host and Guest



We all love to get together with our friends and have fun. We like our favourite dishes even better when we share them with our friends. In short, we all love a party.

You may have attended parties or you may even have given some. What do you think makes a good party – expensive, fancy clothes, costly decorations, rich food? Such things

may make a party look glamorous, but is that enough or even necessary to make the people happy? A good party is where the host and the guests can both enjoy themselves and be happy. It should become a pleasant memory in the minds of all. Let us see what we can do to make sure that a party becomes memorable in a good way -

If you are the host, these are the things that you should remember to do :

Let's have a surprise party for Grandpa.



Consult your family members first and see whether they like the idea. They will help you to choose a suitable time, date, place, menu, etc.



Make a list of the people you wish to invite to the party.

Send the invitations well in advance. You may extend an invitation orally or you may send a written invitation. Make sure that your invitation includes all the necessary information -

- * Who is inviting whom.
- * The occasion why you are giving the party.
- * When and where it will be held - what day, what time, what place.

A formal invitation

13/12/15
Dear Madhu Uncle,
We have arranged a surprise party for Daddy on the 21st of December, his birthday. I will be very happy if you can come to our house at about 6 pm. We have also called a few other close relatives.
Do come.

Yours lovingly,
Mandar

Hi Sona!

13/12/15

I'm so excited!
A surprise party for Grandpa on 21st December at our home. Do come at 6 in the evening. Don't forget!

Give this message to Uncle and Aunty - don't let Grandpa know.

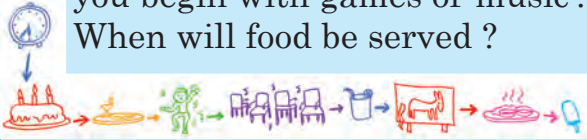
Yours,
Kedar

An informal invitation

Choose a 'menu' that your guests will enjoy.
(Remember the story of the fox and the crane?)
As a good host, you should consider your guests' preferences first.



Chalk out a 'programme' - will you begin with games or music?
When will food be served?



Do you want any decorations?
How will they be done?



Once you have planned the above details, you can work out how the various tasks can be done - who will help you to do each of them.



On the day of the party:

- You must be ready before your guests.



- Your decorations, food preparations should be ready before the people arrive.

- You must greet all your guests when they arrive. If they don't know one another, you must introduce them.



- You should see that all your guests are comfortable and happy.

- You should serve the food politely, making sure that everyone is served what they want.



- If you are holding party games, make sure that everyone gets a chance to participate and enjoy.

Here are some common party games :



Musical Chairs

Simon says



Hands up!

Whispers



Hot and Cold (Guessing game)



Charades

Pin the tail on the donkey



Treasure Hunt



- You should not keep playing with some friends and ignore others.

- When it is time for the guests to leave, you should say goodbye to each of them personally.



- Most important of all, help clean up after a party.

If you are a guest, here are some tips for you :



- Please acknowledge that you have received the invitation and let your host know whether or not you will attend the party.

- If you are choosing a present for your host, think well about what he/she will like. A thoughtful gift is appreciated more than an expensive one.
- Remember to remove the price tag or label from the gift. It is not polite to let your host know how much you have spent on the gift.
- Wrap the gift well, and if possible, decorate the wrapping yourself.



On the day of the party :

- Be punctual. Reach in time for the party.
- If there is any work to be done, offer to help.
- Be friendly with the other guests.
- Take part in the programme and the games (if there are any) willingly.
- Appreciate the food and decorations honestly.
- Don't waste food. Take only as much as you want.
- When it is time for you to leave, approach your host and say good-bye.

Later on, let your host know - either personally or in writing - how much you enjoyed the party.

The success of a party should be measured by the goodwill and friendship it creates. Be you a host or a guest, do all you can to boost it.

Things to do :

• Group Work

- (1) Form groups of 5-8. Then make pairs of groups. Decide which group will be hosts and which will be guests. Arrange mock parties in the classroom so that the roles of hosts and guests can actually be played out.
- (2) Later on, hold groupwise discussions on how your party went. Make lists of the tips you followed and those you forgot to follow.