

## A Surprise Birthday Party Worksheet and activities

### Warm Up

Do you know the expression “surprise birthday party”? Discuss the expression with your classmates.

This story is about a surprise party. The result of the party was a bit surprising. Get ready to read the story by talking about surprise parties with other class members.

Has anyone in the class been to a surprise birthday party? Was it for them? Was it for another person? Where was the party? What happened? Was it a good party? Would you like your friends to have a surprise birthday party for you?

### Read the story



## A Surprise Birthday Party

Ted had a new girlfriend. His friends were pleased. Ted had dated Samantha for two years. When Samantha told Ted it was over, he was very upset. He was sad all the time. A few months later, he met Angela.

“I am arranging a surprise birthday party for Angela!” Ted told the people in his office. “It will be great!”

“Who’s Angela?” asked Tony. Tony had just come back to the office after six months working in America. “I thought your girlfriend’s name was Samantha.”

“Samantha was my girlfriend last year,” said Ted. “We broke up at New Year. I met Angela three weeks ago. Angela’s my new girlfriend.”

“Where did you meet her?” asked Anne.

“I met her at my kick boxing club. She has been a member for a long time.”

“When’s Angela’s birthday? Are we invited?” asked Anne. She likes parties.

"It's on Saturday. It's in the back bar at the Highlander Pub. Of course you and Tony are invited. It will be great!"

"Are you sure a surprise birthday party is a good idea?" asked Tony. "She might have other plans for her birthday."

"No, no. I asked her out on a date on Saturday and she said 'yes', so she doesn't have other plans."

"Are you sure it's her birthday?" asked Tony.

"What do you mean, Tony?" Ted was angry. "Of course it's her birthday! When I changed the page on the calendar in my kitchen I saw *'birthday'* written in pink pen in the space for Saturday. And there's a big heart drawn around it. Angela must have written it there when she was in my apartment."

Unfortunately, neither Tony nor Anne could go to the surprise birthday party. Anne caught a cold and Tony's parents came to visit him so he couldn't go out. When Ted came into work on Monday morning, Anne said, "How was the party? I was so sorry I couldn't go!"

"Me too," added Tony. "Did you have a good time?"

"No," said Ted. "It was terrible!"

"What happened?" asked Anne.

"Well, I told Angela I would meet her at the pub. I don't know Angela's friends, so I asked my friends. I thought it would be a good chance for them to meet her. I put up a big poster that said *Happy birthday to my best girlfriend*. I put the cake with *Happy Birthday Darling* on it on the table. Then Angela arrived, and at the same time, Samantha came in with her new boyfriend. We all shouted 'surprise!' and sang *happy birthday*. Angela was very surprised. And then she was very angry."

"Why?" Tony and Anne asked together.

"It wasn't Angela's birthday at all! It was Samantha's! I forgot. But Samantha had given me the calendar just before we broke up. She must have written the message on the calendar." Tony and Anne could not stop laughing. "I'm sorry, Ted," said Anne. "It's terrible. But it is funny too."

Ted started laughing too. "I can't believe I made such a terrible mistake. And of course now I have no girlfriend again. But the cake was very nice."

## Check your understanding -Quick quiz.

- 1 Who did Ted date for two years?
  - a) Angela
  - b) No one
  - c) Samantha
- 2 Why does Ted think his girlfriend's birthday is on Saturday?
  - a) He asked her.
  - b) There is a message on his memo pad at work.
  - c) There is a note on the calendar in his kitchen.
- 3 Why didn't Tony go to the party?
  - a) His parents came to visit.
  - b) He was away on business in America.
  - c) He had a cold.
- 4 What does Ted say about the party?
  - a) It was a great success.
  - b) It was terrible but he liked the cake.
  - c) Samantha was very happy that Ted is her boyfriend.

## Your opinion

Angela broke up with Ted because of his mistake. Do you think that was the right thing for her to do?

### How did they feel on the night of the party?

Look at the words in the table. How did Samantha feel? How did Angela feel? How did Ted feel?

Tick the boxes in the table. For some words you might have more than one person. Make notes next to the table so you can tell the class why you have this opinion.

	Angela	Samantha	Ted
excited			
happy			
embarrassed			
angry			
amused			
sad			
sick			
grateful			
amazed			

## Activity

### A Surprise Party

Divide into groups. You have 15 minutes to plan a surprise party for your teacher. You have some important questions to answer.

- a) Who will go to the party
- b) Where will the party be?
- c) What time?
- d) What will you have to eat and drink?

***\*\*A very important question when planning a surprise party is – how will you get the guest of honour to go to the right place at the right time, without telling them about the party?\*\*\****

Get ready to report to the rest of the class on your surprise party plan.

### A surprise party for my teacher

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