Practical English Meeting the parents

a Look at the photos. Describe Jenny and Rob.



b (1) 28)) Watch or listen to Jenny and Rob talking. Fill in the blanks.

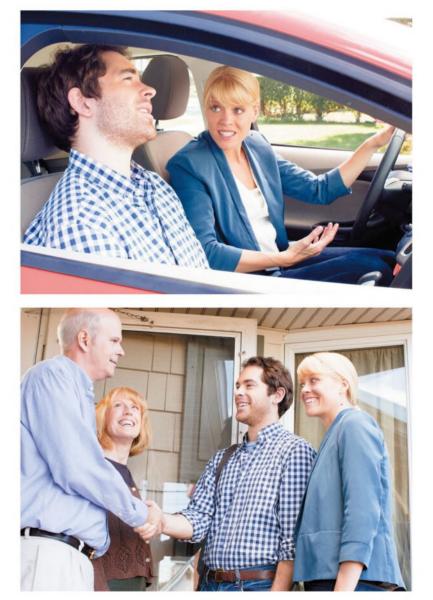
Jenny Zielinski and Rob Walker work for a ¹_____ called *New York24seven*. She's American, and he's ²______. Rob came to New York a few ³_____ ago. He had met Jenny when she went to ⁴______ on a work trip. They got along very well, and he was offered a job for a month in ⁵______. Later he was offered a ⁶______ job. Jenny helped Rob ⁷______ an apartment, and they are enjoying life in the US, although Rob misses his friends and ⁸______.

American and British English apartment = American English flat = British English

a **129**)) Watch or listen to Jenny introducing Rob to her parents. What bad news does Rob have for Jenny? What good news does Jenny have for her parents?

American and British English mom = American English mum = British English

- **b** Watch or listen again and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false). Correct the **F** sentences.
 - 1 Rob left the chocolates at the office.
 - 2 Rob's desk is usually very neat.
 - 3 It's the second time that Rob has met Jenny's parents.
 - 4 Sally has prepared a big dinner.
 - 5 Jenny's new job is managing director.
 - 6 Jenny is going to be Rob's manager.



c (1 30)) Look at some extracts from the conversation. Can you remember any of the missing words? Watch or listen and check.

1	Jenny Rob Jenny	Don't forget the chocolates. OK. Oh,! I don'tit. Don't tell me you
	Rob Jenny	forgot them? I think they're still on my desk. kidding.
2	Jenny Sally	Mom, I'm really sorry – we bought you some chocolates, but we left them at the office. What a
3	Jenny Sally	But I also have some good news. ? What's that?
4	Sally Harry	So you've got a promotion? fantastic! That's great!
5	Sally Jenny	Let's go and have dinner. What aidea!

d **131**)) Watch or listen and repeat the phrases in the chart below. Copy the rhythm and intonation.

REACTING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY

What you say when you	ilean
something surprising	You're kidding. I don't believe it.
something interesting	Really?
some good news	How fantastic! That's great news! What a great idea!
some bad news	Oh, no! What a pity. Never mind.

O How + adjective, What + noun

We often use How + adjective or What + noun to respond to what people say. How interesting! How awful! How amazing! What a pity! What a good idea! What terrible news!

e Practice the dialogues in c with a partner.



3 MARRY FINDS OUT MORE ABOUT ROB



- a (1 32)) Watch or listen to the after-dinner conversation. Does the evening end well or badly?
- **b** Watch or listen again and answer the questions.
 - 1 What school did Jenny go to?
 - 2 Is Harry impressed by Rob's job? Why (not)?
 - 3 What does Harry like doing in his free time?
 - 4 Who are most of the photos in the dining room of?
 - 5 Who are Miles Davis, John Coltrane, and Wynton Marsalis?
 - 6 What surprises Harry about Rob?
- **c** Look at the **Social English phrases**. Can you remember any of the missing words?

Social English phrases

Harry	How do you your career?		
Rob	Not I'm more of a writer.		
Rob	Oh, you know, interviews, reviews, <u>like that</u>		
Rob	I, I like photography.		
Harry	That's most of them are of Jenny.		
Harry	How!		
Rob	Well, he's <mark>a really nice</mark> .		
Harry	Go, son!		
Harry	Go, son!		

- d **133**)) Watch or listen and complete the phrases.
- e Watch or listen again and repeat the phrases. How do you say them in your language?

Can you?		
react to good news, bad news, unexpected news, and interesting news		
introduce yourself and other people		
use phrases that give you time to think, e.g., <i>you know, I mean</i> , etc.		