



natural English inviting and responding

Would you like to ...? is a little more formal than *Do you want to ...?*

Would you like to go out tonight?
Do you want to go for a drink?
Would you like to go to the cinema tonight?

Yes, great. / Yeah, OK.
 Sorry, I'm a bit busy.
 Sorry, I can't tonight. *Maybe tomorrow?*



natural English making and accepting excuses

excuses I'd love to, but (unfortunately) ...
 I'm afraid I can't.
 I've got to work tonight.
 Sorry, but I won't be able to, because ...

accepting excuses Never mind.
 That's a pity / shame.
 Another time, maybe.



natural English be going to + verb

When the main verb is *go*, it's more natural in spoken English to leave it out.

I'm **going to the dentist** next week. NOT I'm going ~~to go~~ to the dentist next week.
 Are you **going shopping** this afternoon? NOT Are you going ~~to go~~ shopping this afternoon?



natural English making arrangements

Where shall we /ʃə(ɪ) wi/ meet?	Why don't we meet outside the cinema?
When shall we meet?	How about 8.30?
Shall we meet outside the cinema?	Yes, fine.



natural English hopes and plans

I'm **going to** stay with my uncle.
 I'm **planning to** rent a car.
 I'm **hoping to** get a part-time job.
 I'm **thinking of going** abroad this winter.

When you talk about plans, you don't usually use *will*.

A Are you busy tonight?
 B Yes, I'm **going to see** my sister. NOT I'll see my sister.

50 natural English Tips

7. "WHAT'S THE PLAN?"



What's the context?

These *natural English* phrases could be used:

- making social plans with people you don't know well
- making social plans with good friends
- discussing hopes and plans

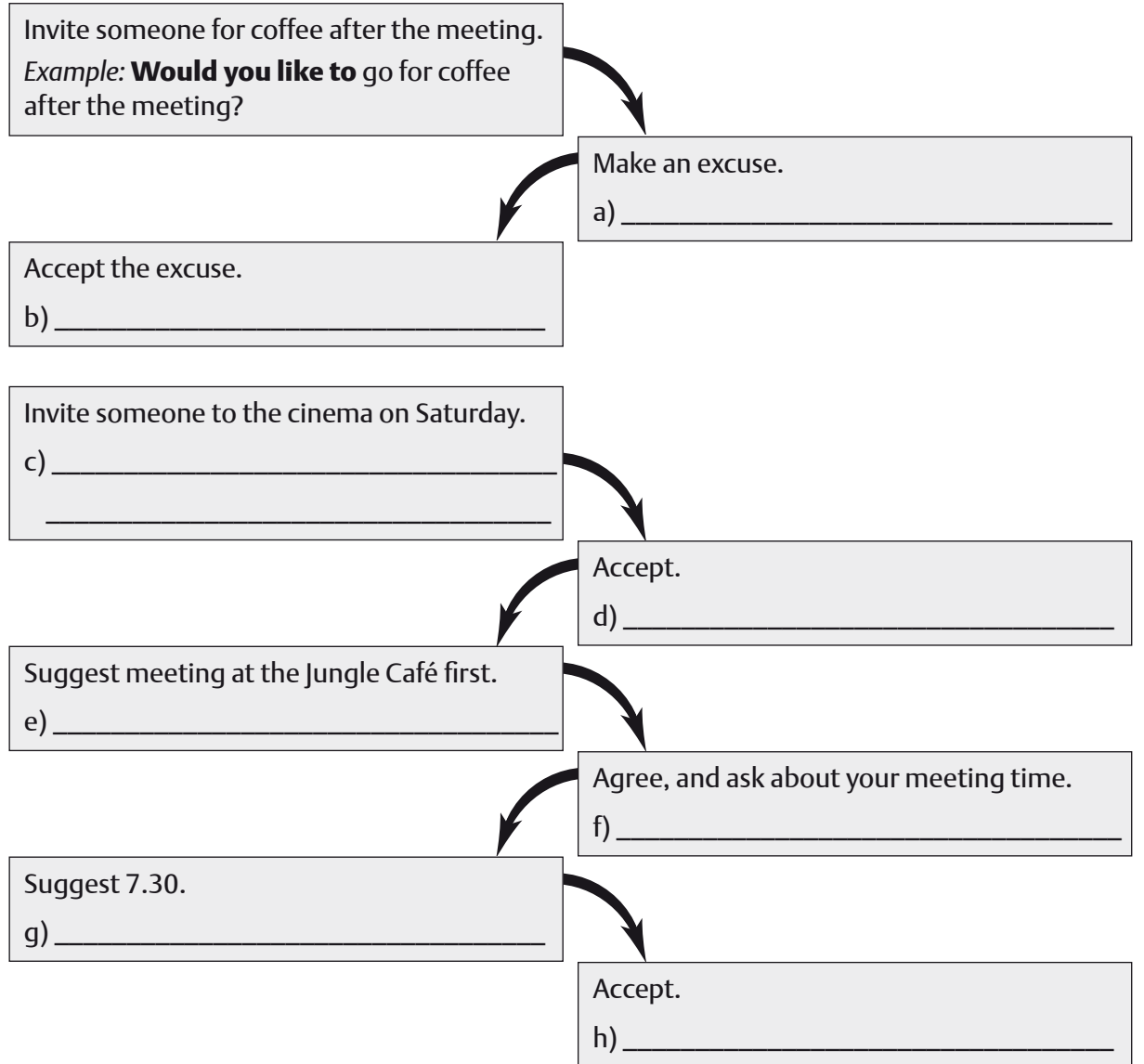
Look through the *natural English* boxes. Find *natural English* phrases that you could use in each of the different contexts above.

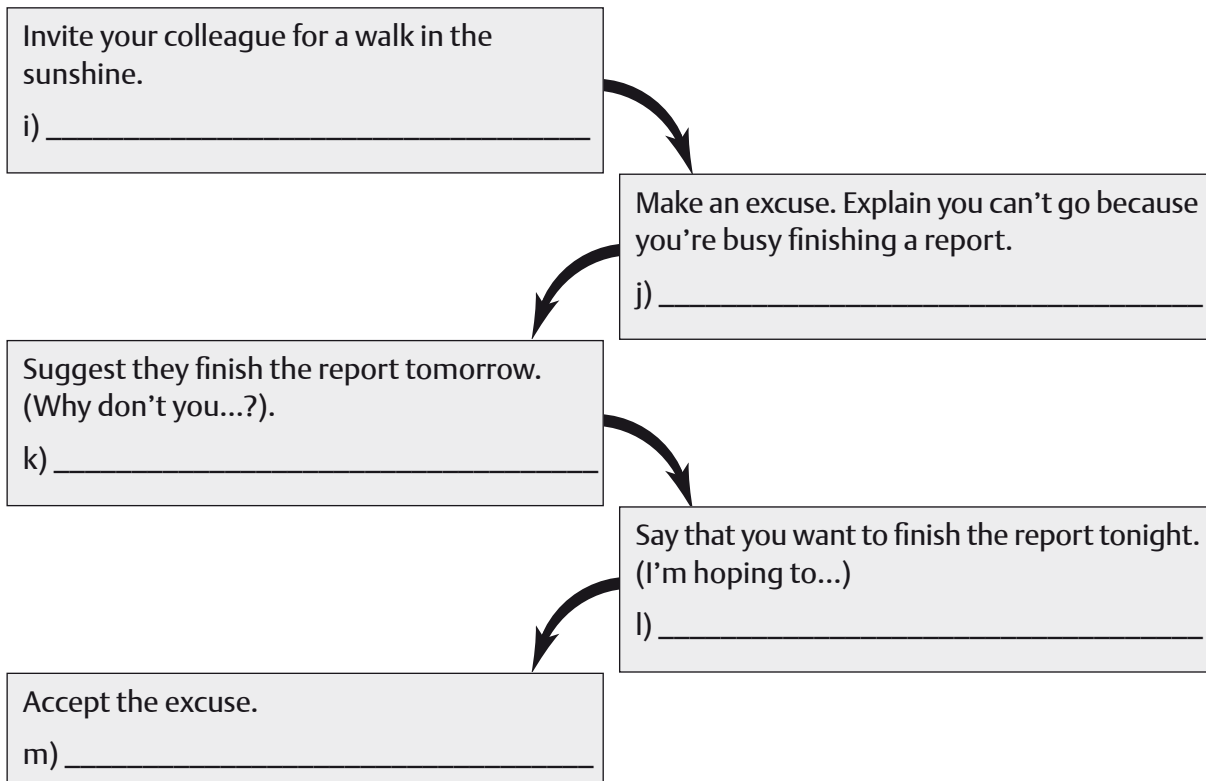
Example: Discussing hopes and plans – I'm going to stay with my uncle.



Study the *natural English* phrases

Use *natural English* phrases to complete the conversation maps below.

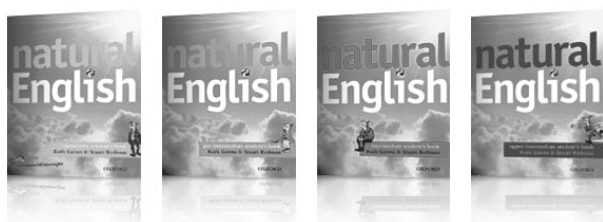




Activate the *natural English* phrases

Work with a partner

1. Practise reading out the dialogues from the conversation maps above.
2. Read the same dialogues, but change the natural English phrases where possible.
3. Read the same dialogues, but change key items of information (eg places, times, excuses.)
4. Create your own dialogues without using the conversation maps!



These tips are brought to you by *natural English*, the course where students use English naturally.