Practical English Meeting the parents
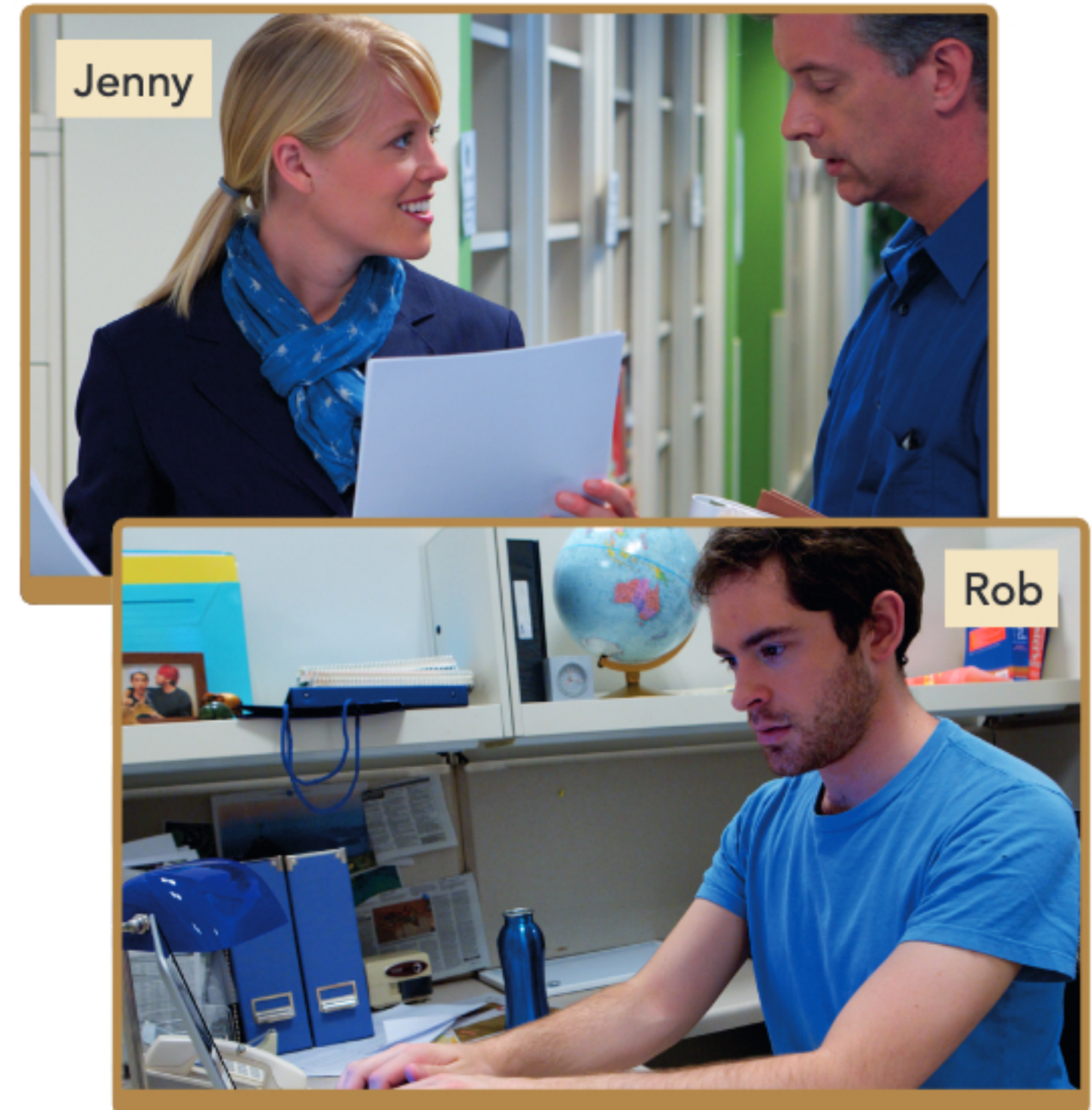
reacting to what people say

1 ▶ INTRODUCTION

a Look at the photos. Describe Jenny and Rob.

b 🔊 **1.26** Watch or listen to Jenny and Rob talking. Fill in the blanks.

Jenny Zielinski and Rob Walker work for a ¹_____ called *NewYork 24seven*. 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

2 ▶ REACTING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY

a 🔊 **1.27** 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 🔊 **1.28** Look at some extracts from the conversation. Can you remember any of the missing words? Watch or listen and check.

1 **Jenny** Don't forget the chocolates.
   Rob   OK. Oh, _____!
   Jenny I don't _____ it. Don't tell me you forgot them?
   Rob   I think they're still on my desk.
   Jenny _____ kidding.

2 **Jenny** Mom, I'm really sorry – we bought you some chocolates, but we left them at the office.
   Sally What a _____. _____ mind.

3 **Jenny** But I also have some good news.
   Sally _____? What's that?

4 **Sally** So you've got a promotion? _____ fantastic!
   Harry That's great _____!

5 **Sally** Let's go and have dinner.
   Jenny What a _____ idea!

d 🔊 **1.29** Watch or listen and repeat the phrases in the chart below. <u>Copy</u> the <u>rhythm</u> and intonation.

REACTING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY	
What you say when you hear...	
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.

> 🔍 ***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 conversations in **c** with a partner.

f 🄲 **Communication** How awful! How fantastic! **A p.106 B p.111** Practice reacting.

3 ▶ HARRY FINDS OUT MORE ABOUT ROB

a 🔊 **1.30** Watch or listen to the conversation after dinner. 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**
> 1 **Harry** How do you _____ your career?
> 2 **Rob** Not _____. I'm more of a writer.
> 3 **Rob** Oh, you know, interviews, reviews, _____ like that...
> 4 **Rob** I _____, I like photography.
> 5 **Harry** That's _____ most of them are of Jenny.
> 6 **Harry** How _____!
> 7 **Rob** Well, he's a really nice _____.
> 8 **Harry** Go _____, son!

d 🔊 **1.31** Watch or listen and complete the phrases. Then watch or listen again and repeat.

e Complete conversations A–G with **Social English** phrases 1–8. Then practice them with a partner.

A	Excuse me, do you mind if I sit here?	Of course not. ⬜.
B	Those sandwiches don't look very good.	⬜ I bought them two days ago!
C	Did you like the movie?	⬜ It was much too long.
D	What do you keep in that file?	Bills, bank statements, ⬜
E	⬜ your future after school?	I'm not sure. I might try and work abroad for a year.
F	You won't believe it, but we just won a week's vacation in Paris!	⬜ Lucky you!
G	What's your new boss like?	He's OK. ⬜, he seems like ⬜.

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., *you know, I mean*, etc.

🌐 **Go online** to watch the video, review the lesson, and check your progress