

**Instant messages**

Read a conversation by instant messages to practise and improve your reading skills.

**Before reading**

Do the preparation task first. Then read the text and do the exercises.

**Preparation task**

Match the informal expressions from instant messages (a–h) with the definitions (1–8).

**Definitions**

1. .... It slipped my mind.
2. .... CU
3. .... Hang on.
4. .... One sec.
5. .... What's up?
6. .... 'Til
7. .... Nah.
8. .... Dunno

**Instant messages**

- a. What's going on?
- b. I forgot.
- c. Until
- d. I don't know
- e. Just a second.
- f. Please wait.
- g. No.
- h. See you.

**Reading text: Instant messages**

You there, Beatriz?

Hang on, Andrew.

OK. What's up?

It's Caroline's birthday tomorrow.

Oh yeah, that's right!

You thought about what to get her?

You mean a present? Weren't you buying one from both of us?

I'm sorry! It totally slipped my mind!

And I'm working 'til late.



So ...

Could you pick up a gift today?

I guess. What sort of thing were you thinking of?

Dunno. Got any ideas?

One sec. Phone.

OK, I'm back.

Just had an idea for a gift.

Go on.

New headphones?

Nah. Jeremy said he was getting her headphones.

OK. What then?

Have you seen those gift certificates for a spa? Maybe one of those?

She'd love that!

I'll pick it up today then.

Thanks a million. Appreciate it.

No worries. See you tomorrow then?

Yep.

What time was it again? 4?

4.30. I can pick you up at your house if you like.



CU then.

Bye for now.

## Tasks

### Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	<b>Answer</b>	
	True	False
1. They have a present for Caroline.	True	False
2. Andrew was supposed to get the gift.	True	False
3. Beatriz can't get the gift because she's at work.	True	False
4. Beatriz thinks a phone is a good idea.	True	False
5. Andrew suggests headphones.	True	False
6. They think Caroline likes the spa.	True	False
7. They are meeting this afternoon at 4.30.	True	False
8. Andrew is picking Beatriz up.	True	False

### Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

I've	Have	Are
I'm	Do	Have

1. .... you there?
2. .... you thought about what to get her?
3. .... you mean a present?
4. .... you got any ideas?
5. .... just had an idea for a gift.
6. .... back now.

### Discussion

What do you prefer – sending messages to your friends or phoning them?

## Answers

### Preparation task

1. b
2. h
3. f
4. e
5. a
6. c
7. g
8. d

### Task 1

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. True
7. False
8. True

### Task 2

1. Are
2. Have
3. Do
4. Have
5. I've
6. I'm