

Is this seat taken?

This is polite to ask before sitting beside a stranger.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Excuse me. **Is this seat taken?**"

B: "No, go ahead."

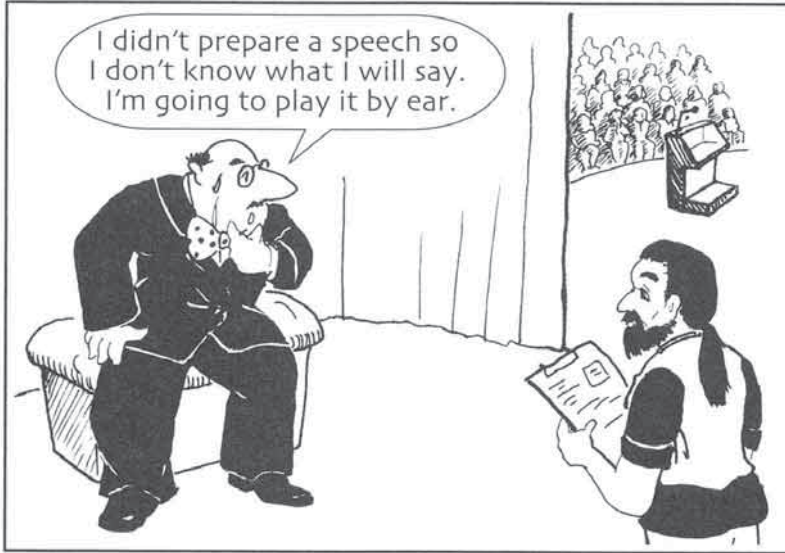
A: "**Is this seat taken?**"

B: "Yes, sorry. I'm saving it for someone."

For *go ahead*, see page 110

play it by ear

do it *without* a plan



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "What movie should we see?"

B: "Let's **play it by ear**. Let's go to the movie theater first, and *then* choose a movie."

"Don't book a hotel room. **Play it by ear**. Look for a hotel when you get to the city."

set up

establish; start

I started the business in 1974. I set up a bank account, I set up an office and I set up a filing system.



MORE EXAMPLES

"I work for a company, but next year I hope to **set up** my own business."

"I'm a computer programmer. I **set up** accounting programs for companies."

in those days / today

then / now



MORE EXAMPLES

"I became a writer in the 1970's. **In those days** I used a typewriter, but **today** I use a computer."

"I went to Tate College. **In those days** I had no money. **Today** I own a beautiful home."

I didn't get your name

Say this when you didn't hear someone's name, or you can't remember it.



MORE EXAMPLES

"Who's that man in the blue jacket? **I didn't get his name.**"

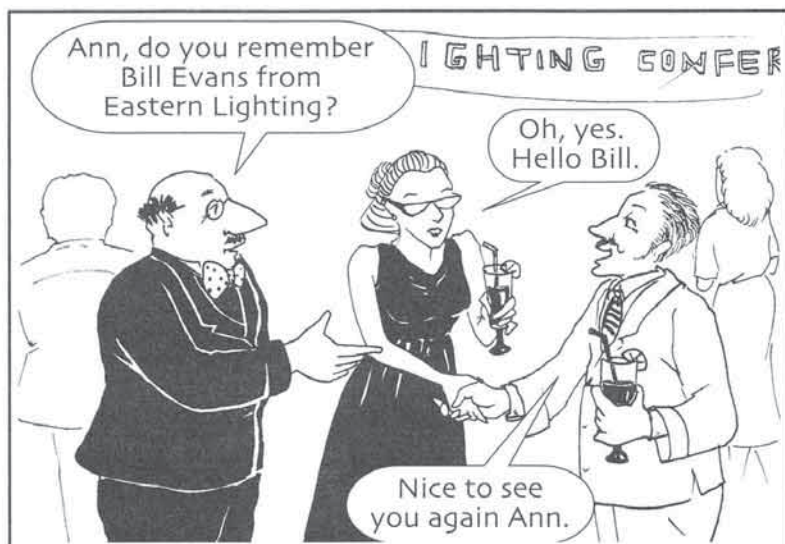
A: "This is Mr. Stevanoloulich."

B: "Mr. ...? Sorry, **I didn't get your name.**"

nice to see you again

Say this when you see someone
who you don't see often.

NOT Nice to meet you



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Hi Ann. I haven't seen you for a long time."

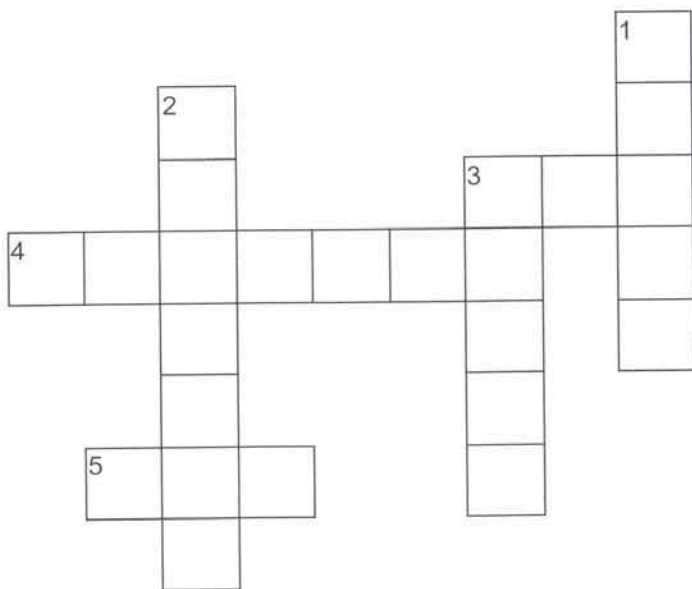
B: "Yes, **nice to see you again**, Ahmed."

"Good-bye Jim. It was **nice to see you again**.
Please send my regards to your wife."

For *I haven't seen you for*, see page 187

For *send my regards*, see page 192

GRAB A PENCIL! • Puzzle #22



ACROSS

- 3) "We met last year." ■ "Yes, I remember. It's nice to ___ you again."
4) "I got married 25 years ago. ___ ___ days, we lived with my parents, but now we have our own house."
5) "Who is that man? I just talked to him, but I didn't ___ his name."

DOWN

- 1) "What time should we serve dinner at the party?" ■ "Whenever the guests get hungry. Let's play it ___ ___."
2) "I'd like to sit here. ___ this seat ___?" ■ "No, it's not. You can sit here."
3) "Our office is in Boston. Next year we plan to ___ ___ another office in Chicago."

For answers, see page 366