



44 Invitations



2.42 It's Friday afternoon, in Tampa, and Ian King is in a meeting with Rebecca Larsen and Leroy Allen.

Rebecca: Are you flying back to Atlanta for the weekend, Ian?

Ian: Um, no. I'm staying in Tampa.

Rebecca: Do you have any friends here?

Ian: No, but I don't know anyone in Atlanta, either.

Rebecca: Well, in that case, we can't leave you here on your own! Larry and I are taking our boys to the Salvador Dali Museum tomorrow. *Why don't you join us?* We can go to Busch Gardens in the afternoon.

Ian: Oh, no, I couldn't. I'm sure you need a weekend break with your family.

Rebecca: Of course you can! I insist!

Ian: Well ... if it's not too much trouble.

Rebecca: We'll pick you up at your hotel at 9:15? OK?

Ian: OK. Thank you very much.

2.43

Leroy: Hey, Ian. Have you ever seen an American football game?

Ian: Only on TV.

Leroy: *How about coming along* with me on Sunday? I'm going to see the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. They're playing the Atlanta Falcons.

Ian: Atlanta? I won't know which team to support!

Leroy: That's OK. I'll tell you!

Ian: I don't like to intrude on your weekend.

Leroy: No, I really mean it. It'll be great. I'll come and pick you up at your hotel late Sunday morning.

Ian: Well, only if you're absolutely sure ...

Leroy: Of course I'm sure. Eleven o'clock? I'll show you the sights of Tampa before the game.

Ian: That sounds great. You're both very kind.

Leroy: We'll enjoy it.



1 The two invitations are in blue. Find and highlight these things:

- a At first, Ian refuses both invitations. Highlight the refusals.
- b After Ian refuses, both Rebecca and Leroy stress that they mean the invitation. Highlight what they say.
- c Highlight Ian's thanks.

2 Try inviting each other to:

- a dinner on Sunday night
 - b an opera
 - c a moonlight dinner cruise
 - d a sumo wrestling fight
- Don't forget, you may not want to go!*

3 Discuss. What do you do on the weekends, or in your spare time on business trips?

Culture File **44** Invitations