

Socializing 14: Inviting a Subordinate to Your Home

Practice 1 | Useful Expressions

Directions: Listen and repeat.

- **company** - fellow, mate (in this dialogue)
- **have someone for dinner** - to call someone to eat dinner at your house
- **pun** - form of word play which mixes up the multiple meanings of a word
- **have someone over** - to call someone to your house
- **make someone's mouth water** - to make someone want to eat something so badly that it causes saliva to flow in your mouth
- **scrumptious** - splendid, delicious, very pleasing
- **bonding** - the formation of a close human relationship, as between friends
- **taste buds** - one of the small structures on the tongue that allow you to recognize the flavors of food and drink (mostly plural form)
- **pleasure for the taste buds** - tasty, delicious

Practice 2 | Dialogue

Directions: Read the dialogue aloud with your teacher.

*As one of his valuable **companies**,*

Mr. Fowels likes calling his immediate subordinates over for dinner from time to time.

Mr. Fowels : Hi, John. Thank you for coming.

John : Hello, Mr. Fowels. Is everything ok?

Mr. Fowels : Yes. I just wanted to **call you over for dinner** this Friday evening.

John : Oh, thank you. That would be my pleasure.

Mr. Fowels : My wife will be delighted to **have you over** once again. She really enjoyed your **puns** last time.

John : What will she be cooking this time?

Mr. Fowels : She didn't say, but she promised it would be exotic and **a pleasure for the taste buds**. She said it would **make our mouths water** just by looking at the food.

John : Sounds **scrumptious!** Can't wait! I'm looking forward to Friday evening then.

Mr. Fowels : And John, do call me Mike over there. "Mr. Fowels" is just for work.

John : Sure thing, Mr. Fowels. See you on Friday evening.

Mr. Fowels : Yes, see you then.

Check your understanding: Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Mr. Fowels call John to his office?
2. When is John invited to dinner?
3. What was Mrs. Fowels going to prepare for dinner?

Practice 3 | Role-Play

Directions: Have a role-play with your teacher in the following situation.

Situation

Tomorrow night is a very important football game and you want to call some of your subordinates over to your place to watch the game together in an attempt to have a bit of team building.

Expressions:

- to call someone over
- to invite someone
- it would be a pleasure to have you over
- bonding
- make someone's mouth water

Practice 4 | Discussion

Directions: Discuss these topics and exchange thoughts with your teacher.

1. Have you ever called a subordinate or a co-worker to your home? If so, for what kind of occasion?
2. How would you feel about sharing the privacy of your home with someone from work?
3. Have you ever been to a co-worker's home?
4. Do you think having subordinates over for dinner is a good way to do bonding and team building?
5. Do you think having a private friendship with your boss may help you get a promotion in the company?