

# BEST FRIENDS FOR A DAY

## AMANDA & MIKA



### Arbetsblad

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## Vocabulary

Make sure that you know the words in the list. Try to use the words in a sentence.

choir – kör  
smoothly – smidigt  
essential – viktig  
descendant – ättling  
chipmunk – jordekorre  
assign – utse

stage – skede, delmoment  
carpet – heltäckningsmatta  
residential – bostads-  
exceeding – överträffar  
expectation – förväntan

## **Facts before watching**

The British school system is made up of local state schools, that are free to attend, and private schools, where you must pay a fee. Sometimes private schools are referred to as public schools or independent schools. Some private schools can be boarding schools, where you stay during terms. Everyone must attend school from when they are 5 until they are 16 years old. First you go to Primary School. In Year 7 you start Secondary School. To get into certain popular private school, you must pass a test. After Secondary School you go to upper secondary education. If you want to go to university you have to go 6<sup>th</sup> Form College and get your A-levels. Or, you can focus on practical skills and go to a vocational college.

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Yehudi Menuhin (1916-1999) was a violinist and conductor, who in 1963 founded the Yehudi Menuhin School, which is an independent day and boarding school for about 85 musically gifted boys and girls from all over the world. The school gives the children and teenagers both general education but also specialist musical tuition.

## **Did you get it?**

1. Mika has a brother and a sister. What are they called?
  - a) Mike and Bella
  - b) Lukas and Bella
  - c) Luka and Natasha
  - d) Mike and Natasha
  
2. Amanda gets a gift from the family. What was the book called?
  - a) *Songwriting for Dummies*
  - b) *English Songwriters Throughout the Ages*
  - c) *Essential Singing and Songwriting Skills*
  - d) *Essential Songwriter's Rhyming Dictionary*

3. Mika attends The Yehudi Menuhin School. What type of school is it?
- a) a typical British boarding school
  - b) a school for musically gifted children
  - c) a school for all types of performing arts
  - d) a music school that you attend in your spare time
4. What's so special about Ruth Nye, Mika's piano teacher?
- a) Her ancestors taught music to famous composers.
  - b) She is very old and wrinkly.
  - c) She has worked with Mika for about a year.
  - d) She is one of the founders of the school.
5. What is the difference between a squirrel and a chipmunk, according to Mika?
- a) Chipmunks have ears standing up, while squirrels have tiny ears.
  - b) Squirrels are much larger than chipmunks.
  - c) Chipmunks live on the ground, whereas squirrels live in the trees.
  - d) Squirrels don't have stripes on their backs like chipmunks do.
6. Where do Mika and Amanda do some window shopping?
- a) the bakery, the carpet shop, and the garden shop
  - b) the butcher's, the bakery, and the pet shop
  - c) the carpet shop, the butcher's, and the grocery store
  - d) the fashion shop, the pharmacy, and the garden shop
7. What do you commonly do if you are interested in someone, according to Mika?
- a) You tell that person straight out about your feelings.
  - b) You perform a song that explains your feelings.
  - c) Hopefully the other person feels the same and tells you first.
  - d) Have a friend text the person for you to let him/her know.

## **Discussion points**

- A. Mika goes to a special school for kids who are musically gifted. Are there many schools like that, for different kinds of skills in the UK, do you think? Are there any in Sweden? Have you heard of such a school before? Do you think there should be more schools like that? What skills should those schools focus on?
  
- B. Amanda and Mika talk about their families and who they are close to. Do you have a family member that you feel especially close to? Who is that and why do you feel closer to him or her? Can a friend be closer to you than a family member? In what way?

## **Explain the joke!**

**Knock, knock!**

Who's there?

Europe.

Europe who?

No, you're a poo!

**Do you know any other "Knock, knock-jokes"? If not, here are some. Can you explain these jokes?**

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Figs.

Figs who?

Figs the doorbell, it's not working!

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Iran.

Iran who?

Iran here. I'm tired!

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Anita.

Anita who?

Let me in! Anita borrow something.

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Lettuce.

Lettuce who?

Lettuce in, it's cold out here!

**Knock, knock.**

Who's there?

Olive.

Olive who?

Olive *you*

## **Written assignment**

Choose *one* of these assignments after you have watched the episode.

- **Write a letter** to either Amanda or Mika, telling her/him what you thought of the episode. Is there anything you think she/he would need to know? Can you offer some advice, or do you have a question for her/him?
- **Write a diary entry** pretending to be either Amanda or Mika. What did you think of your new best friend and why? How was the day? What was good, what was bad? Was there anything you did that you wish you hadn't? Do you think you will keep in touch?
- **Write a diary entry** about a day in the future when Mika is visiting Amanda in Sweden. What are they doing? Will they face any challenges? What?
- **Write an article** for the local newspaper about the Swedish girl who came to Bookham and describe what was going on and how other people reacted to Amanda.

## **Language points**

### **A. Improve the phrases**

Amanda feels that her English is good, but sometimes even good can get better. How would you improve these things Amanda said?

- I been singing choirs and, you know, those kind of things.
- Yeah, you know... I'm closest with my dad.
- Yeah, I mean, I can talk to my dad about almost everything. Yeah, like not giving him like the deepest details but I can talk to him about like boys, or like troubles that I have. So, it's not like it's any awkward.
- That would be so fun.

## B. Communication

Amanda didn't have any real difficulties expressing herself in English. What strategies did she use to make herself sound so confident? Think about it, discuss it, and give examples of strategies that you noticed.

## C. Pair the sentences

Pair the English and Swedish sentences! Write the combination in the middle.

English		Swedish
A I really look forward to introducing you to my family.		1 Jag behövde faktiskt knappt prata alls.
B I actually have family there.		2 Det är poängen med en mattaffär.
C I'll be expecting from the next couple of days to write a song.		3 Det här är bara så det är synligt för bilar.
D I hardly had to do any of the talking, actually.		4 Jag tycker att det hade lite karaktär.
E I think that had some character.		5 Jag ser verkligen fram emot att presentera dig för min familj.
F I literally got goosebumps.		6 Jag tycker att hon passar in ganska bra, över min förväntan.
G This is just so that it's visible for cars.		7 Vi kommer faktiskt bra överens.
H That's the idea of a carpet shop.		8 Jag fick bokstavligt talat gåshud.
I We do get along well.		9 Jag har faktiskt släkt där.
J I think she is fitting in quite well actually, exceeding my expectations.		10 Jag förväntar mig att skriva en sång de närmsta dagarna.

## KEY

### *Did you get it?*

*1c, 2d, 3b, 4a, 5c, 6a, 7d*

### *Pair the English and Swedish sentences*

*A-5, B-9, C-10, D-1, E-4, F-8, G-3, H-2, I-7, J-6*

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