



Watch again
online

Friends S01E01 (Part 3) — Welcome to the Real World

Clip: 8:42 · 9 words · 7 idioms & phrasal verbs · 2026-08-24



Friends — a scene from today's lesson

1 Before You Watch

The story

This is the final part of the first Friends episode. The next morning, Rachel is excited about Paul, but Monica discovers that he has used the same romantic line before. Rachel also has no job and still depends on her father. Phoebe gives her a very strange story about starting life alone. At the end, Ross tells Rachel that he had a crush on her in high school and asks her out.

Why is it funny?

The comedy is conversational and often very dry. Rachel calls her sale boots her 'I-don't-need-a-job' boots, even though her father paid for them. Phoebe tries to comfort Rachel with an absurd and very dark story about her childhood, then Chandler supplies the word Rachel is looking for: 'anyway'. Ross's long, nervous question about asking Rachel out is funny because he sounds as if he is writing a legal contract.

Key words — know these before you watch:

regional work

sophisticated

beacon

live off someone

crush

ask someone out

Predict: Rachel has no job and Ross has an old secret. What do you think will happen?

- A.** Ross may ask Rachel out.
- B.** Rachel may return to her wedding.
- C.** Monica may move to Florida.

Background reading (1 minute)

In American English, 'live off someone' means to depend on that person for money. Young adults often talk about getting a job, moving out and being on their own. A 'crush' is a strong but usually temporary romantic feeling. 'Ask someone out' means invite someone on a date. Friends uses these everyday expressions in a relaxed conversation, with short forms such as gotta, gonna and you guys.

2 Watch 1 — with subtitles

First watch — subtitles ON. Catch the main idea: Watch once with subtitles ON. What is the main situation?

- A.** Rachel faces adult life, and Ross finally asks her out.
- B.** The friends prepare a wedding for Monica and Paul.
- C.** Joey gets a full-time job and moves to Florida.

Watch 2 — subtitles ON again. Detail questions (after transcript / vocab on class day):

1. Why is Rachel so happy in the morning?

- A.** She had a great time with Paul.
- B.** She found a new apartment.
- C.** She got a job in Florida.

2. What does Monica discover about Paul's romantic story?

- A.** It was a line he had used before.
- B.** He had never dated anyone before.
- C.** He was moving to another country.

3. Why is Rachel surprisingly upbeat after her interviews?

- A.** She found expensive boots on sale.
- B.** She got twelve job offers.
- C.** Her father gave her a new job.

4. What does Ross tell Rachel at the end?

- A.** He had a major crush on her in high school.
- B.** He is moving away from New York.
- C.** He has already met someone else.

3 Transcript — notice the highlighted words

yellow = vocabulary to learn · **blue** = idioms & phrasal verbs

14:14 Isn't this amazing?

14:15 I mean I have never made coffee before in my entire life.

14:18 - That is amazing. - Congratulations.

14:20 While you're on a roll if you feel like you gotta make like a Western omelette or something.

14:28 Although, actually I'm really not that hungry this morning.

14:33 - Good morning. - Good morning.

14:34 - Morning. - Morning.

14:37 - Morning. - Morning, Paul.

14:39 - Hello, Paul. - Hi. Paul, is it?

14:46 I had really great time last night.

14:49 'Thank you. Thank you so much.'

14:52 - We'll talk later. - Yeah.

14:59 Thank you.

15:07 That wasn't a real date.

15:10 What the hell do you do on a real date?

15:14 Shut up and put my table back.

15:16 'Okay.'

15:18 Alright, kids, I gotta get to work.

15:20 If I don't input those numbers..

15:23 ...it doesn't make much of a difference.

15:29 So, like, you guys all have jobs?

15:32 Yeah, we all have jobs.

15:33 See, that's how we..

15:35 ...buy stuff.

15:37 Yeah. I'm an actor.

15:39 Wow, **Would I have seen you in anything?**

15:41 Oh, I doubt it.

15:43 Mostly **regional** work.

15:44 Oh, hey, unless you **happen to** catch the..

15:46 ...Wee Ones production of Pinocchio.

15:48	"Look, Gepetto, I'm a real live boy."
15:53	I will not take this abuse.
15:55	You're right. I'm sorry.
16:04	So, how you doing today?
16:06	Did you sleep okay? Did you talk to Barry?
16:09	I can't stop smiling.
16:11	I can see that, you look like you slept with a hanger in your mouth.
16:14	I know.
16:20	I know, he, he's just so..
16:24	...you remember you and Tony Demarco?
16:25	Oh, yeah.
16:27	Well, it's like that, with feelings.
16:30	Oh, wow, are you in trouble.
16:33	Okay, okay, I am just going to get up go to work, and not think about him all day.
16:40	Or else I'm just gonna get up and go to work.
16:43	- Oh, wish me luck. - What for?
16:45	I'm gonna go, get one of those..
16:47	...job things.
16:56	- Hey, Monica. - Hey, Frannie, welcome back.
16:59	How was Florida?
17:00	You had sex, didn't you?
17:04	How do you do that?
17:06	So, who?
17:08	You know Paul?
17:10	Paul, the wine guy?
17:12	Oh-oh-oh, yeah, I know Paul.
17:16	You mean, you know Paul like I know Paul?
17:19	Are you kidding?
17:20	I take credit for Paul.
17:21	You know, before me, there was no snap in his turtle for two years.
17:28	Of course, it was a line.
17:31	Why! Why, why would anybody do something like that?
17:34	I assume we're looking for an answer more sophisticated than "to get you into bed."

17:41	Is it me?
17:43	Is it like I have some sort of..
17:44	... beacon that only dogs and men with severe emotional problems can hear?
17:49	Alright, come here, give me your feet.
17:58	I just thought he was nice, you know?
18:03	I can't believe you didn't know it was a line.
18:05	Ah!
18:10	Guess what?
18:12	You gotta job?
18:13	Are you kidding?
18:14	I'm trained for nothing.
18:17	I was laughed out of 12 interviews today.
18:19	And yet you're surprisingly upbeat .
18:21	Well, you would be, too if you found Joan and David boots on sale 50 percent off.
18:27	Oh, how well you know me.
18:30	They're my new..
18:31	...I-don't-need-a-job, I-don't-need-my-parents I've-got-great-boots boots.
18:36	How did you pay for them?
18:38	A credit card.
18:39	And-and who pays for that?
18:41	Um, my father.
18:46	'Come on, you can't live off your parents your whole life.'
18:48	I know, that, that's why I was getting married.
18:52	Give her a break, it's hard being on your own for the first time.
18:56	- Thank you. - You're welcome.
18:57	I remember when I first came into this city, I was 14.
19:00	My mom had just killed herself and my stepdad was back in prison.
19:03	'I got here and didn't know anybody.'
19:05	And I ended up living with this albino guy who was cleaning windshields outside port authority and then he killed himself..
19:14	And then I found aroma therapy.
19:15	So, believe me, I know exactly how you feel.
19:22	The word you're looking for is..

19:25	"...anyway.."
19:30	Alright. You ready?
19:31	- I don't think so. - Oh, come on.
19:34	Cut. Cut.
19:42	Alright. Welcome to the real world.
19:45	It sucks! You're gonna love it.
19:47	I know.
19:55	Well, that's it.
19:57	- You gonna crash on the couch? - No.
19:59	No, I gotta go home, sometime.
20:01	Alright. You gonna be okay?
20:02	- Yeah. - Goodnight.
20:04	Hey, Mon, look what I just found on the floor.
20:08	What?
20:10	That's Paul's watch.
20:12	Now, you just, put it back where you found it.
20:15	Oh, boy. Alright. Goodnight, everybody.
20:19	- Goodnight. - Goodnight.
20:29	- Hmm. - 'Hmm.'
20:31	- Hmm. Oh, no. - Oh, sorry.
20:32	- Oh, no, no. Go. Go-go. - No, have it, really.
20:34	- I don't want. - Split it?
20:35	- Okay. - Okay.
20:39	Thanks.
20:41	You probably didn't know this but back in high school I had a..
20:45	...major crush on you.
20:48	I knew.
20:49	You did? Oh.
20:53	I always figured you just thought I was Monica's geeky older brother.
20:56	- I did. - Oh.
21:03	Listen, do you think and try not to let my intense vulnerability become any kind of a factor here but you think it would be okay if I asked you out sometime maybe?
21:16	Yeah.

21:18 Maybe.

21:20 Okay.

21:27 Okay, maybe I will.

21:33 - Alright. Goodnight. - Goodnight.

21:49 See ya.

21:51 Mm-hmm.

21:52 Wait, wait.

21:53 Hey, what's with you?

21:57 I just grabbed a spoon.

22:07 I can't believe what I'm hearing, here.

22:11 What, I-I said you had..

22:15 Would you stop?

22:16 Oh, was I doing it again?

22:20 Would anybody like more coffee?

22:24 Did you make it or are you just serving it?

22:27 I'm just serving it.

22:28 Yeah, I'll have a cup of coffee.

22:31 Kids, new dream.

22:32 'I'm in Las Vegas.'

22:34 - I'm Liza Minnelli. - Come on.

4 Vocabulary — 9 words worth remembering

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning	In the clip
regional	/ˈriːdʒənəl/	connected with one particular area of a country	<i>Mostly regional work.</i>
sophisticated	/səˈfɪstɪkətɪd/	clever, complex or advanced	<i>I assume we're looking for an answer more sophisticated than "to get you into bed."</i>
beacon	/ˈbiːkən/	a light or signal that attracts attention or guides people	<i>Is it like I have some sort of beacon that only dogs and men with severe emotional problems can hear?</i>
severe	/sɪˈviə(r)/	very serious or extreme	<i>Is it like I have some sort of beacon that only dogs and men with severe emotional problems can hear?</i>
upbeat	/ˈʌpbiːt/	positive, cheerful and hopeful	<i>And yet you're surprisingly upbeat.</i>
vulnerability	/ˌvʌlnərəˈbɪləti/	the state of showing that you can be hurt or affected	<i>Try not to let my intense vulnerability become any kind of a factor here.</i>
crush	/krʌʃ/	a strong but usually temporary romantic feeling for someone	<i>Back in high school I had a major crush on you.</i>
windshields	/ˈwɪndʃiːldz/	the large front window of a car	<i>I ended up living with this albino guy who was cleaning windshields outside port authority.</i>
aromatherapy	/əˈrəʊməˈθerəpi/	the use of pleasant natural oils to improve health or mood	<i>And then I found aroma therapy.</i>

5 Idioms & Phrasal Verbs

Phrase	Type	Meaning	In the clip
happen to	phrase	to do or experience something by chance	<i>Unless you happen to catch the Wee Ones production of Pinocchio.</i>
take credit for	phrase	to say that you were responsible for something good	<i>I take credit for Paul.</i>
live off	phrasal v.	to depend on someone for money	<i>You can't live off your parents your whole life.</i>

give someone a break	idiom	to stop criticizing someone and be more understanding	<i>Give her a break, it's hard being on your own for the first time.</i>
end up	phrasal v.	to finally be in a particular place or situation	<i>And I ended up living with this albino guy who was cleaning windshields outside port authority.</i>
laughed out of	phrase	to be rejected while people laugh at you	<i>I was laughed out of 12 interviews today.</i>
a crush on	phrase	a strong romantic feeling for someone	<i>Back in high school I had a major crush on you.</i>

6 Grammar Spotlight

Would for polite questions and imagined situations

Use *would* to make a question softer or more polite, or to talk about an imagined possibility. In conversation, it often sounds less direct than *will* or *do*.

- *Would I have seen you in anything?*
- *Would anybody like more coffee?*
- *You think it would be okay if I asked you out sometime maybe?*

Learn more: English Grammar in Use — *would*: polite questions and hypothetical situations

7 Practice — circle / match / fill in; answers on the last page

Understand the story

1. Why is Rachel so happy after her date with Paul?

- A. She thinks the date went very well.
- B. She has found a new job.
- C. She has won a trip to Florida.

2. What does Monica learn about Paul?

- A. His romantic story was a line he had used before.
- B. He has never had a relationship.
- C. He wants to become an actor.

3. Why is Rachel upbeat even after twelve bad interviews?

- A. She found Joan and David boots on sale.
- B. She got twelve job offers.
- C. Her father gave her a job.

9. Play this bit. What made Rachel feel better after her interviews?

- A. She found boots on sale.
- B. She found a job in a theatre.
- C. She received a call from Paul.

11. Put these lines in the order you hear them:

- ___ Rachel says she has no job.
- ___ Rachel shows off her new boots.
- ___ Monica says she cannot live off her parents forever.
- ___ Rachel says that is why she was getting married.

True or False

4. Rachel paid for her new boots with money from her own job. True / False

5. Ross had a crush on Rachel in high school. True / False

Fill the gap

6. Mostly _____ work.

(regional · national · seasonal)

7. You can't live _____ your parents your whole life.

(off · out · over)

Word meanings

8. Which word means: 'a strong but usually temporary romantic feeling for someone'?

- A. beacon
- B. crush
- C. factor

Grammar in use

10. Which line uses WOULD to make a question softer or more hypothetical?

- A. Would anybody like more coffee?
- B. I can't stop smiling.
- C. I was laughed out of 12 interviews today.

Match the phrases

12. Match each phrase with its meaning:

Phrase		Meaning (mixed order)
1. happen to	→ ____	a. finally be in a particular situation
2. take credit for	→ ____	b. do something by chance
3. give someone a break	→ ____	c. a strong romantic feeling for someone
4. end up	→ ____	d. be more understanding and less critical
5. laughed out of	→ ____	e. be rejected while people laugh at you
6. a crush on	→ ____	f. say you were responsible for something good

8 Final listen — NO subtitles — prove what you remember

Subtitles are OFF. Prove what you remember from the last part of the episode.

Catch the line

- ☐ That wasn't a real date.
- ☐ Mostly regional work.
- ☐ I take credit for Paul.
- ☐ I was laughed out of 12 interviews today.
- ☐ You can't live off your parents your whole life.
- ☐ Give her a break, it's hard being on your own for the first time.
- ☐ Back in high school I had a major crush on you.
- ☐ I just grabbed a spoon.

What did they say?

1. What made Rachel surprisingly upbeat?

- A. Joan and David boots were on sale.
- B. She got a job after twelve interviews.
- C. Paul invited her to Florida.

2. What does Ross reveal before asking Rachel out?

- A. He had a major crush on her in high school.
- B. He had already asked Monica out.
- C. He was leaving New York that night.

Put the lines in order

___ Rachel says she has no job.

___ She shows off her new boots.

___ Monica says she cannot live off her parents forever.

___ Rachel explains why she was getting married.

Answer Key — check yourself after finishing

Before You Watch: A · **Gist:** A · **Detail:** 1-A, 2-A, 3-A, 4-A

Understand the story: 1-A · 2-A · 3-A · 9-A · 11: 0→1→2→3

True or False: 4-False · 5-True

Fill the gap: 6-regional · 7-off

Word meanings: 8-B

Grammar in use: 10-A

Match the phrases: 12: 1→b, 2→f, 3→d, 4→a, 5→e, 6→c

Final — said what: 1-A · 2-A

Final — order: 0 → 1 → 2 → 3

1: Rachel says she had a really great time last night and cannot stop smiling.

2: Frannie explains that Paul used the story before to get someone into bed.

3: She is happy about the boots, even though she still has no job.

4: She paid by credit card, and then admits that her father pays the bill.

5: Ross says clearly: 'Back in high school I had a major crush on you.'

6: Joey has done mostly regional work, not famous national work.

7: Live off someone means depend on that person for money.

8: A crush is a strong romantic feeling, often before a real relationship.

9: Rachel says she would be upbeat too if she found Joan and David boots on sale.

10: Would makes the offer polite and less direct than 'Do you want coffee?'.

11: The conversation moves from no job, to the boots, to the money problem, and then to Rachel's explanation.

12: These are the useful expressions from the conversations in this clip.