

Surprise Party

I got an **invitation** from Mrs. Roberts. She was John's mother. It read as follows.

The screenshot shows the Evolution - Mail application window. The menu bar includes 'Search' and 'Help'. The toolbar contains icons for Reply, Reply to All, Forward, Move, Copy, Print, Delete, Junk, Not Junk, Cancel, Previous, and Next. Below the toolbar is a search bar with the text 'Subject or Sender contains' and buttons for 'Find below' and 'Clear'. The email list below has columns for From, Subject, Date, and Size. The selected email is from Mrs. Roberts with the subject 'IT'S A SURPRISE PARTY...AND HE HAS NO IDEA!'. The body of the email contains the following text:

Please **join** in the fun
As we **celebrate**
John's 9th birthday
Saturday, May 3rd
Please **arrive** at 6:00 p.m.
John's home
Frisky, Florida

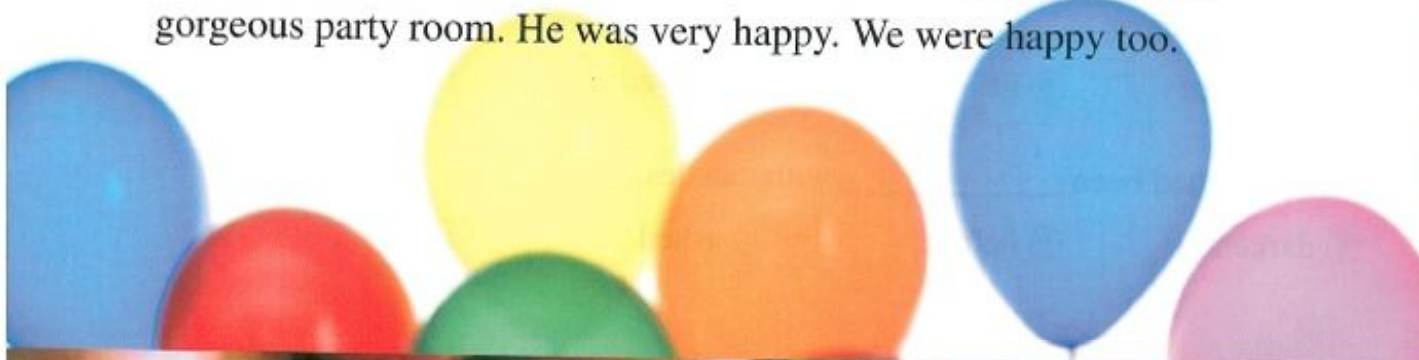
Shhh... It's a secret!
R.S.V.P. to Lynette by April, 21st
at my mail, lynette1122@mailmail.com or at 056-700-2000

15 I am a neighbor of the Roberts. I called Mrs. Roberts and asked what I could do for her. She asked me to come to her home one hour earlier than the other friends. She was going to prepare some gifts for **guests**. I wanted to help her put special treats and toys in goody bags. It was very sweet of her to prepare goody bags.

20 I went to John's house and made goody bags with Mrs. Roberts. By six fifteen, all of the guests had come. John was supposed to come back home at 6:30. We started to **darken** the house and wait for him.

25 "Ding-dong," someone rang the doorbell. We thought it must be John! Mrs. Roberts opened the door and we shouted, "Surprise!" But it was not John! It was Mr. Roberts. We had to hurry to **tidy up** the room again. We hid behind the sofa and darkened the house again.

30 "Ding-dong," someone rang the doorbell again. We thought it must be John this time! Mr. Roberts opened the door. Then we shouted at a boy in the dark, "Surprise! Happy birthday, John!" Mrs. Roberts **lit** the room. This time, it was John! John looked around at his friends and the gorgeous party room. He was very happy. We were happy too.



Vocabulary Build Up

A. Match the words to the correct definitions.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. invitation • | • a person who is a visitor in another's home |
| 2. join • | • to take part in with others |
| 3. celebrate • | • to come |
| 4. arrive • | • to make a place or things neat |
| 5. guest • | • to make light to get things bright or easy to see |
| 6. darken • | • to cause to be dark |
| 7. tidy up • | • the act of asking to come somewhere |
| 8. light • | • to do something enjoyable because of a special event |

B. Choose the best words to fill in the blanks.

- I said, "Yes!" to her _____ to come for dinner.
(a) join (b) ignore (c) invitation (d) celebrate
- After driving all day, we _____ at the ocean.
(a) arrived (b) went (c) surprised (d) joined
- Please _____ toys before you leave.
(a) darken (b) light (c) ring (d) tidy up
- Clouds and snow _____ the winter sky.
(a) darkened (b) lit (c) arrived (d) treats
- The room had been _____ with candles.
(a) darkened (b) helped (c) asked (d) lit

Comprehension Check Up

A. Check True or False.

1. The birthday party for John was supposed to start at six o'clock. T F
2. John was born on the May 3rd. T F

B. Choose the best answers.

1. Which of the following is the title of Lynette's invitation?
 - (a) Project info
 - (b) Your recent online billing dispute
 - (c) RE: Powerpoint to DVD transfer
 - (d) IT'S A SURPRISE PARTY...AND HE HAS NO IDEA!
2. What does it mean, "R.S.V.P."?

(a) Reply, if you please.	(b) Bring your gifts.
(c) Sing a song.	(d) Never call me.
3. What is true about the story?
 - (a) John's phone number is 056-700-2001.
 - (b) The writer arrived at John's house at 5 o'clock.
 - (c) The goody bags were John's birthday gifts.
 - (d) Mr. Roberts was never late for the party.

C. Write the best answers.

1. What is the full name of John's mother?

2. Why did the writer make a call to Mrs. Roberts?

Reading Skill Up

Take Narrator's Position

Taking narrator's position is being a story teller in a story. You can be engaged in a story by taking a narrator's position.

If you were the narrator of the story, "Surprise Party," you could reply to Lynette's mail by writing an email to her. Write the reply.

HOO! MAIL

Welcome, terryne@hoo.com

[\[Sign Out\]](#), [\[My Account\]](#)

Mail ▾ | Addresses ▾ | Calendar ▾ | Notepad ▾

Send | Save as a Draft | Spell Check | Cancel

Insert addresses | Add CC - Add BCC

To:

Subject:

Attach Files

Use my signature

Send | Save as a Draft | Spell Check | Cancel

Story Summary Up

Complete the summary by filling in the blanks.

earlier guests invitation rang Saturday Surprise

I got an _____ from John's mother. She was going to have a surprise party on John's birthday, _____, May 3rd. She wanted to get a reply and I called her. I asked how I could help her. She wanted me to come to her house _____ to help her make goody bags for the _____. People got together on the day and waited for John in the dark. Someone _____ the bell. It was not John. Someone rang the bell again. We opened the door and shouted, "_____! Happy Birthday, John!" It was John. He was happy to see us and the party.

Think and Act Out

Write or say your own opinions.

- What else might Lynette have prepared for the party?
- Did you have a special birthday party? When and how was it?
