

1 Choose the correct phrases to complete the dialogue.

- A What do you think is happening in this photo?
 B Hmm. **'It's hard to say / I'm pretty certain**, but I think the boy looks worried or confused.
 A Yes, I agree. Do you think the people in the photo are students?
 B **It looks / It could be** as if they are, yes. Maybe they're in a lesson or perhaps they're doing an exam.
 A **I can't be sure / I'm pretty certain** that they can't be doing an exam. He's using his mobile phone! That's not allowed in an exam.
 B That's true. But where are they? **It's clear / It looks** that they're not at a café because there's no food or drink.
 A **It could be / I can't be sure**, but I'd say that her book is different from his book. So they're probably not in a lesson together. I think they're in a library.
 B Yes, you're probably right. I don't think the girl is happy.
 A **Judging by / It looks** her expression, I'd say that she's angry with him.
 A **It's hard to say / It could be** that he's answering his phone and she's annoyed because of the noise.
 B They're definitely not very happy people!

**2 Act out the dialogue in pairs.****3 SPEAKING** Now discuss this photo. Use phrases for speculating from exercise 1. Talk about:

- what is happening.
- where the people are.
- how they might be feeling.



8 Functional Language

Practice: Speculating

Aims: To practise language for speculating. This draws on the language in Lesson 8G.

Time: 15–20 minutes

Materials: One handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to look at the photo first and think about what is happening and what the people are thinking. Give students a couple of minutes to study the photo before asking them to choose the correct phrases to complete the dialogue.

KEY

- 1 It's hard to say
- 2 It looks
- 3 I'm pretty certain
- 4 It's clear
- 5 I can't be sure
- 6 Judging by
- 7 It could be

Exercise 2

- Students work in pairs to act out the dialogue. Ask one or two pairs of students to perform the dialogue to the rest of the class.

Exercise 3

- Students work in pairs to discuss the second photo on the handout using the phrases from exercise 1. Encourage them to think about what the people are wearing, what they might be saying or feeling, what the people in the background are doing and where they might be.