

Chatterbox #158 – An interview with Ben: Part 1

Episode Description

Have you ever wondered what it's like to work as a bartender? In this, another special two-part Chatterbox episode (this is part 1), Andrew interviews his friend and bandmate Ben, who works as a bartender in Montreal. Join them as they talk about their friendship and some of the highs and lows of working in the bar and nightclub industry.

Sample Dialogue

Andrew: I was trying to think how long we've been friends, and it's only been a few years, but it feels like I've known you for a really long time.

Ben: Right.

Andrew: And I think that's because, like you said, we have a lot of mutual friends. We **travel in the same circles**, but we weren't in the same place for quite a while. But once we connected, it just felt very natural.

Ben: Yeah. Being in a band is like spending an unnaturally long amount of time. It's only with your immediate family that you actually have such the same experiences.

Expressions Included in the Learning Materials

- To travel in the same circles
- An institution
- To drink your face off
- To go without saying
- Shaken, not stirred
- To not do anything for me
- To not bode well
- A whatchamacallit
- A vibe



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Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the detailed explanations section that follows the transcript.

Transcript

Andrew: Hey, everyone. My name is Andrew, and you're listening to the Culips Podcast. Before we get started today, I want to remind you to visit our website at Culips.com. That's C-U-L-I-P-S.com. We're also on Facebook and on Twitter, so check us out there too. Culips is made possible because of our members. Your support means we can keep recording awesome episodes for you. And we want to encourage everyone to visit Culips.com and sign up to become a member.

When you're a member, you get access to our learning materials, which include full transcripts, detailed explanations of the difficult or interesting expressions that you hear on Culips, and you get quizzes. And this is for each and every episode – the ones we've already recorded and the ones we will record. So using our learning materials to study English is a great way to improve and become better. And we suggest that you sign up and become a member today.

OK, so this episode is a Chatterbox episode, and that's where we chat with an interesting person or talk about an interesting topic, and you get to listen in. Today's Chatterbox episode features an interview with my buddy Ben. And Ben is a very friendly and outgoing guy, and I think you're going to enjoy listening to our chat. So let's get to it! Here's my interview with Ben.

Well, today I'm here with my friend Ben. Hello Ben.

Ben: Hello.

Andrew: Thank you for agreeing to do this with me.

Ben: You're welcome.

Andrew: And I guess we should start at the very beginning. That's a good place to start, right?

Ben: Yeah.

Andrew: So maybe you could just explain a little bit about who you are and how you know me.

- Ben: OK. My name is Ben, and I live in Montreal. I know Andrew from the West Coast of Canada, in Victoria, where we met and he was playing music with some friends of mine. I was back for a little while while he was there, and he played a show and we met up. And then he was moving to Montreal and started a band here in Montreal, and now I guess this is year 2.5 of our friendship.
- Andrew: It's weird because, yeah, I was trying to think how long we've been friends, and it's only been a few years, but it feels like I've known you for a really long time.
- Ben: Right.
- Andrew: And I think that's because, like you said, we have a lot of mutual friends. We **travel in the same circles**, but we weren't in the same place for quite a while. But once we connected, it just felt very natural.
- Ben: Yeah. And then also... But it's... Being in a band is like spending an unnaturally long amount of time. Or just, like, it's only with your, probably, immediate family that you actually have such the same experiences. Because usually with your friends, it's, like, you know, you finish hanging out or you go out to eat or whatever, and then you, kind of, go home. But in a band, it's, like, you see your bandmates all the time, and then if you tour, like we do, then it's really the only time that you ever spend that much time with the other person.
- It's, like, rare that I would have, like... like, wake up in the same place, have breakfast, go wherever; you know, like, you get into the van, you hang out for the whole day, and then you play the show and then you both stay at the same place again. It's, like... It's really rare, other than maybe, like, a camping trip or something that you take. And so it isn't like just being regular friends with somebody because it's like you share these experiences that are a by-product of being in a band that even some of my closest friends I don't have that often. You know, for better or worse.
- Andrew: Yeah, it's very true. It's weird being in a band with other people because it's a relationship that you don't find anywhere else, it's kind of like the relationship you have with a girlfriend, and it's kind of like the relationship you have with your family. Like, it's very intense. And we fight and we joke around, and we have these intense experiences together. And, yeah, probably that's why we feel like we've been friends for so long, too, is because if we added up all the hours we've spent together, it would equal a lot more than just a regular friend that you've had for 10 years or something.
- Ben: Yeah, definitely.
- Andrew: Yeah, so we play music together. And what else do you do in Montreal?

- Ben: Right now, I'm just bartending; I bartend at two bars. One is a cocktail bar, and... So, you know, I'm dressed up and I have a tie and I have the apron on, and I have a big bar and I make all the cocktails for this bar and restaurant, called Sparrow, here in Montreal. And then I work at another bar, which is more of a nightclub kind of thing; this little bar called Blizzarts, also in Montreal. But it's a different kind of thing; it's very late-night and my shifts are shorter and I don't make as many cocktails. I just serve a lot of beer and shots of whiskey and things like that.
- Andrew: Right. Because the students that frequent that bar are not as classy, maybe.
- Ben: Maybe not as class... Well, it's just the fact that they're students, right? So it's been... It's kind of **an institution**; the bar has been there for 15 years, and I mean, I feel like most of my friends from Montreal, if they've been here since their... maybe, like, their late teens and early 20s, they've... Like, everybody I know has spent, like, a couple years where they would go to Blizzarts almost every week, kind of thing.
- Andrew: Right, right.
- Ben: So it's a different thing, whereas Sparrow is in, like, a different neighbourhood; it's an older crowd; it's kind of, like, maybe, you know, 25–40 kind of crowd; young professionals, kind of things.
- Andrew: Yeah. So there's just a different atmosphere at the two places.
- Ben: Yeah.
- Andrew: And so when you go out for a drink in Canada, you can go to a bunch of different places, right? You can go to a pub. You can go to a bar. You can go to a lounge. You can go to a nightclub. In your professional opinion, what are the differences between these places?

- Ben: It's just a matter... It's obviously... It's kind of obvious... It's depending on what you want out of the evening, right? So the difference between Sparrow, the cocktail bar, and Blizzarts, the more of the club kind of bar, is that Sparrow is the kind of place that a lot of people go after work, so we open early. It's got this, like, this very homey atmosphere, this aesthetic that is more subdued. It's, like, warmer. So it's a place that you would go and, you know, you'd maybe have something to eat or you'd have a meal, or maybe once you finished work or school you'd come and you'd have a couple of drinks and you'd stay there for a while. So it's not the kind of place that you would come to party. Maybe on a Friday or Saturday night it gets pretty rowdy, but generally speaking, it's kind of more of a place that maybe you'd come on a date. I feel like it's kind of a date spot. But it's kind of, like, a neighbourhood bar where you wouldn't necessarily... You might stay there for a long time but you wouldn't be there, like, just **to drink your face off** or get wild or something. Whereas Blizzarts is... You know, I open the bar at 10pm, we're open until 3:00, and it's really only busy between 11:30 and 3am. And so people that come have probably, you know, already been drinking at home, and then they want to come out and they want to come and dance, you know, and drink too much before they go to school or work the next day, probably.
- Andrew: Yeah. You mentioned something funny there: the pre-drink. This is sort of an interesting element of Canadian student culture. Because drinking is expensive in Canada, and people, especially students, like to get very drunk. They pre-drink before they go out to another nightclub or a concert or a sporting event.
- Ben: Literally any activity will involve pre-drinking if you do not have a lot of money, so...
- Andrew: Yeah. And I remember... Not so much these days, but when I was younger, whenever there was an event happening, there would always be a pre-drinking party and you'd get a bunch of Facebook invites to go to the pre-drinking party before the actual event was taking place.
- Ben: That's true, yeah. It kind of **goes without saying**. It's like, "Of course we can't afford to just drink as much as we want once we're there." And so it's a lot cheaper if you go to a *dépanneur*, which is a Quebec, kind of, -ism for a corner store. It's what they call a corner store, is a *dépanneur*, or we say *dep*. So you go buy beer for \$7 and you have six beers, and then you go to a bar and you drink, like, two or three drinks.
- Andrew: Exactly, yeah.
- Ben: So you're only paying full price for three drinks, kind of thing.
- Andrew: That's how you have to do it on a budget.

Ben: That's right.

Andrew: Yeah. So let's talk about the cocktail bar that you work at.

Ben: Yeah.

Andrew: You mix cocktails there. Which is the most popular one?

Ben: I'd say probably the, kind of, the classic cocktails are very popular... I mean, they've been popular for, you know, whatever, like, 50, 60 years. The really simple ones. Like, you can have an old-fashioned, which is bourbon and bitters, a little orange, a little sugar; it's a very strong drink. There's a Manhattan, which is similar to an old-fashioned in that it's very strong, but it's a lot sweeter. And, you know, things like martinis. I kind of only like drinking my martinis one way, really.

Andrew: **Shaken, not stirred?**

Ben: No. James Bond would... he and I would not have a very similar drinking regimen, I would think, because I hate shaking martinis. You get these little bits of *glace*... or, sorry, that's my French there. *Glacé* in French is ice, so you get these little things of ice in your drink unless you double strain it, which is annoying, and it just gets watered down too easily. And I'm not a big fan of vodka because it **doesn't really do anything for me**, so if I'm going to have a martini, it's going to be a gin martini, probably dirty – so it will have olive juice in it.

Andrew: Yes.

Ben: There will be extra olives in the glass and it'll be stirred, not shaken. That's the way I like it.

Andrew: There you go. Now, which cocktail is your least favourite to make? Because I know some people come in and they order these crazy drinks and it takes you a long time to prepare them. Which one is the most annoying to prepare?

Ben: I don't know if it's the most annoying to prepare, but I think it's one of my least favourites. A lot of people love this drink, but as a bartender, I think it's a fairly ubiquitous thing if you order a mojito at a bar. It's not like the bartender doesn't like to make it or it's very difficult to make, but it's more just that it's kind of time-consuming for how simple the drink is, and I don't really like the drink itself. A mojito is crushed mint leaves in a glass that you muddle, which is where you take a wooden stick – a muddler – and you muddle in... You pour the rum and the lime juice and the sugar in and then you muddle; you crush the leaves in the glass to, kind of, get the oils out of the mint, with ice, and then soda on top. It's a pretty refreshing drink – I'm not saying that it's not, but I just... if I get, like, four mojitos, it's going to take me a while. And if I'm busy, I don't like it. And then everybody sees a mojito, because it looks nice; it looks very refreshing, and so then I know as soon as I make one mojito, I know I'm going to make, like, eight more in quick succession.

And if I have a full bar... At my bar, you know, there's, like, 10 or 11 seats around this big beautiful bar, so when it's full, people are eating so I'm serving them and I have to keep track of the drinks that they've had and how much food they've had and when the next course is coming, etc. And I have to make cocktails for the rest of the bar. So as soon as I make a couple of mojitos, I'm like, "Oh, this **does not bode well**," because it just means that I'm going to be, you know, just... I'm going to be spending time on a drink that I don't think is as good as the effort that goes into it.

Andrew: Right. So everybody sees it and then all of a sudden they want to try.

Ben: Yeah. They want to try it, and then inevitably it's a small rush because people get it and they realize it's just mint, sugar, and lime juice with some, like, probably, you know, with white rum, which doesn't really taste like much. So it's more... it's just, like, there are other drinks that take as much time that I would way rather prefer making.

Andrew: I like that verb, *to muddle*. That's a new expression for me. I've never heard that before, but I like the sound of that word.

Ben: Yeah. I mean, I had heard it before, but there's a lot of these weird... Like, there's a lot of strange bartending vernacular, you know, like the...

Andrew: The jargon?

Ben: ... The jargon – that I didn't realize. And I actually thought my boss was joking when I was training there some of the times, because the unit of measurement in bartending... They have this thing and it's, like, two cones put back-to-back to measure, and it's called a jigger.

Andrew: A jigger?

- Ben: Yeah. But that's the actual dictionary term for it. That's the word. And it's a real word, it's not just, like, "Oh, just jigger it" or whatever. It's, like, a jigger. And then, you know, you'll get these recipe books, these old recipe books, and it will be like, you know, "Add two thirds of a jigger," which is essentially an ounce, or an ounce and a quarter. So it's, like, these bizarre measurements that only exist in bartending, and I think probably in North America.
- Andrew: OK.
- Ben: Because I do know in Europe they just use millilitres, which makes way more sense.
- Andrew: Right, right.
- Ben: But in North America, it's, like, such an old tradition that they still use these, kind of, antiquated measurements and terms.
- Andrew: It sort of reminds me, you know, like, maybe you're building something and you need your friend to pass you a screwdriver, and you can't think of the name for the screwdriver right away so you're just like, "Pass me the **whatchamacallit**."
- Ben: That's what I thought it was. That's honestly what I thought it was. It was, like, you know, my... You know, the bartender who was training me at the time was like, "Oh, pass me that jigger" and I was, "Oh, ha ha."
- Andrew: Yeah. He was just making something up.
- Ben: You know, the jigger, just making it up. And then it was like, you know, I started reading these books and it was like, yeah, no, two jiggers, and I was like, what? What is going on here? It's bizarre.
- Andrew: That's cool, though.
- Ben: Yeah.
- Andrew: Yeah. So it's got its own unique language.
- Ben: Yeah. It's a strange thing, and it does feel antiquated. I mean, the bar I work at is kind of done in this older style, you know, beautiful, like, copper ceilings. Like, that's, like, a big thing, kind of, like, not, like, a... I definitely wouldn't say it's a saloon or anything, but it's, you know, all dark wood, you know, copper ceilings, like, old, you know, pictures and beautiful old wallpaper and stuff like that, these chandeliers. The owner of the bar, Murad, is a big antiques guy. I love antiques as well, so it kind of makes sense. But there's a certain antiquity to the bar.
- Andrew: It's very traditional.

Ben: And then, you know, the drinks that are on the menu, some of them are kind of newer, but they tend to be on the more classic, kind of, cocktail side, but then you still have this, like... this antiquated language that is still kind of the standard for bartending, at least in North America. It's, like, everybody uses that terminology.

Andrew: It fits **the vibe** of the establishment.

Ben: **The vibe**, yeah.

Andrew: Unfortunately, that's all the time we have for today. If you'd like to hear the rest of my interview with Ben, you'll have to listen to part 2, which will be released very shortly.

OK, before I let you go, I'm going to remind you that we have hundreds of past episodes that can be found on our website, Culips.com. Our website is also the place where you can become a Culips member. So head on over and check it out.

That's all for now. Talk to you next time.

Detailed Explanations

To travel in the same circles

When you **travel in the same circles** as someone else, you have mutual friends and acquaintances with that person. Although you might not know that person directly, you socialize with the same people or groups of people as that other person.

In this episode, Andrew and Ben talk about how they met. Andrew mentions that he feels like he has been friends with Ben for a long time because they **travel in the same circles**. In other words, they have a lot of mutual friends and they knew about each other for a long time before they actually became friends, which makes their friendship feel longer than it really is.

Sometimes people use the verb *to move* instead of *to travel* when they use this expression. The meaning is exactly the same for both expressions.

So, when two or more people **travel (or move) in the same circles**, it means that they socialize with the same people and have mutual friends or acquaintances.

Here are a couple more examples with ***to travel in the same circles***:

Kayla: Do you happen to know a guy named Ron Smith?

Jeremy: No, I don't think so. Why?

Kayla: He's an old friend of mine. He's a pilot, just like you, so I thought you might **travel in the same circles**.

Jeremy: Nope. I'm afraid I don't know him.

Kayla: OK, that's fine. Just checking!

Thomas: How did you meet your wife?

Dwight: Well, we were acquaintances for a long time. We **travelled in the same circles** and had a lot of mutual friends. It was actually one of our mutual friends who set us up on our first date.

Thomas: No way!

Dwight: Yeah. Once we spent some time together, we realized that we had a lot in common and we just kind of hit it off.

Thomas: That's great.

An institution

The expression **an institution** has many meanings. It can refer to an important organization, like a university, or to a place where people with special needs are looked after. It can even refer to cultural customs like marriage. However, in this episode, this expression is used in an informal way to refer to a nightclub.

A person, business, or place that has existed for a long time and is well known or popular is **an institution**. In this episode, Ben describes the nightclub where he works as **an institution** because it has been in business for more than 15 years and is super popular with university students.

So, in its informal usage, the expression **an institution** describes a person, place, or thing that is well known and has been around for many years.

Here are a couple more examples with **an institution**:

Christina: I'm going down to Paul's Pizzeria for a bite to eat. Want to come along?

Victor: Maybe. Is the pizza good there?

Christina: You've never been?

Victor: No, I haven't.

Christina: That's unbelievable. Paul's Pizzeria is **an institution**. It's been open for more than 50 years!

Victor: I know, I know. I've just never gotten around to checking it out.

Christina: Well, it's been open for so long for a reason. I think you should come with me tonight to finally try it out.

Victor: OK. Let's do it!

George: I'm going to be visiting Montreal next weekend. Are there any restaurants or bars you recommend?

Dustin: Well, if you feel like trying one of Montreal's famous bagels, you should check out Fairmount Bagel. It's **an institution** in the Mile End neighbourhood. It's been in business for years and years.

George: Sounds awesome. I'll have to check it out.

Dustin: Yeah. You won't regret it.

To drink your face off

To drink your face off is a slang expression that means to get very drunk. In this episode, Ben talks about what it's like to be a bartender in Montreal. He mentions that he works at two different bars in town: a cocktail bar and a nightclub. When Andrew asks him to describe the cocktail bar, he says that it isn't a place people visit **to drink their faces off**. In other words, the cocktail bar is a place where people go for a casual drink or two, but the customers there do not drink until they are extremely drunk.

So, if someone gets very drunk, we can say that person **drank their face off**. This is an extremely casual slang expression, and is more common in speaking than in writing. Because it is very casual, it should be avoided in formal contexts.

Here are a couple more examples with **to drink your face off**:

Adam: How was the party last night?

Holly: It was OK, but I left pretty early. Quite a few of the people there obviously planned **to drink their faces off**, and I didn't want to be in a crazy environment like that, so I left shortly after 11pm.

Adam: Ah, fair enough.

Holly: I still had a good time though, and I was home and in bed before midnight. That's, like, my ideal night out.

Trina: I had the worst experience on the bus ride home last night. This dude who had clearly been **drinking his face off** all night hopped on the bus around 10th Street and started causing all sorts of trouble.

Rex: Did he bother you?

Trina: Yeah, he bothered everyone. He was trying to talk to people but everyone just avoided him. Then once he realized he was being ignored, he started to get angry and yelled at a bunch of people.

Rex: Woah. That's intense.

Trina: Yeah. Eventually the bus driver kicked him off the bus and called the cops.

Rex: Sounds like the driver made the right decision.

Trina: Totally. Anyways, that's the risk you take when you take public transit. You never know who you'll be riding with.

To go without saying

When something is obvious or very evident, **it goes without saying**. In this episode, Ben says **it goes without saying** that students can't drink as much as they like when they visit a bar. This is because it is expensive to drink in Canada. In other words, Ben says that it is obvious that students can only drink a little bit when they go out, because they are on limited budgets and drinking is expensive.

So, when a fact or statement is painfully obvious and it feels unnecessary to even mention it, we can use the expression **to go without saying**. By using this expression, we communicate that the information we are about to pass along is known by everyone already or is obvious.

Here are a couple more examples with **to go without saying**:

Lin: I had the best day today at work. I got promoted! You're looking at the new regional manager!

Kenny: Wow. Congratulations! So what will you have to do for your new job?

Lin: Well, I'll have a lot more responsibilities and I'll have to travel a lot more.

Kenny: I guess **it goes without saying** that you'll get a raise, too?

Lin: Yes, of course.

Kenny: Sounds great. Way to go!

Lin: Thanks.

Esther: Last week, I made a big decision. I decided to register my kids in a private school.

Brock: Wow. That is a big decision.

Esther: Yes. So they'll finish out the month at the school they're at now, and then they'll start at Smithson Academy.

Brock: What do the kids think?

Esther: I haven't told them yet. Can you please keep this a secret until I've let them know?

Brock: Of course. **It goes without saying** that you can trust me.

Esther: Fantastic.

Shaken, not stirred

In this episode, Andrew and Ben joke about the best way to order a martini. Andrew asks Ben whether he likes his martinis **shaken, not stirred**. This joke references the fictional spy James Bond. In the James Bond movies and books, the famous British spy always orders a martini that's "**shaken, not stirred**." So when Andrew and Ben talk about the best way to prepare a martini, they reference the James Bond series.

To not do anything for me

A polite and casual way to say that you do not like something is to say that **it doesn't do anything for you**. In this episode, Ben mentions that vodka doesn't do anything for him. This means that he doesn't like vodka.

Although it is more polite to use this expression than to directly say that you do not like something, you should still be careful when you use this expression. If you are someone's guest and they serve you a food that you don't enjoy and you react by saying that the food **doesn't do anything for you**, you will probably offend your host!

Here are a couple more examples with **to not do anything for me**:

Oliver: Frank and I are grabbing some sushi tonight. You in?

Jackie: No, I think I'll pass. I'm not really much of a seafood fan. **It doesn't do anything for me.**

Oliver: Really? You could just come and hang out.

Jackie: No, that's OK. You guys go and have fun. We'll all hang out together some other time.

Oliver: OK, that's cool.

Dean: Did you see the new *Stars Wars* movie yet?

Ruby: Yeah. I caught it last week.

Dean: What did you think?

Ruby: I don't know. **It didn't really do anything for me.**

Dean: Really? Most people I know loved it.

Ruby: Yeah. I guess I'm just not much of a Sci-Fi fan.

Dean: Fair enough. I thought it was great!

To not bode well

When the future looks bad for someone or something, we can use the expression **to not bode well**. In this episode, Ben says that if one person orders a mojito while he is bartending, it **doesn't bode well**, because then many people will start to order mojitos (a drink that takes him a long time to prepare). In other words, one person ordering a mojito is a bad sign for the future because it means that Ben will probably be very busy preparing more mojitos soon.

So, when something is a bad sign or omen, then that thing **doesn't bode well**.

Here are a couple more examples with **to not bode well**:

Anna: Are you coming on the trip to New York at the end of the month? It's going to be awesome.

Kristin: I really want to join you guys, but it depends on whether I can get time off work.

Anna: Do you think you'll be able to?

Kristin: I'm going to try, but we're already short-staffed. One guy is on paternity leave and another is on sick leave.

Anna: That **doesn't bode well**.

Kristin: Yeah, but you never know. I'll let you all know if I can go or not in a couple of days.

Anna: Sounds good. Keep us posted.

Paul: I'm planning on going skiing on Saturday, but the temperature is supposed to be around 3 degrees.

Cal: That **doesn't bode well** for the snow. You might not have any to ski on!

Paul: Yeah, exactly. I'm a little worried!

Cal: Most of the bigger ski hills have artificial snow machines. If there isn't any snow naturally, they'll just create some.

Paul: Yeah, that's true, but it's just not the same as fresh, natural snow.

Cal: Well, you never know how the weather will turn out.

Paul: That's true. I'm crossing my fingers that I'll get to ski in some fresh powder.

A whatchamacallit

When you can't think of the actual name for something, you can call it a **whatchamacallit**. In this episode, Ben talks about the jargon of bartending. He mentions his surprise to learn about the term *jigger*. When he first heard this word, he thought it was used in a similar way as **whatchamacallit** – to refer to something when you can't remember the real word for it. However, he eventually learned that *jigger* is just bartending jargon.

When you can't remember the real word for something, you can casually call that thing a **whatchamacallit**.

Here are a couple more examples with **a whatchamacallit**.

Jack: Got any plans for today?

Tina: I need to go down to pick up a **little whatchamacallit** for my front door. It's coming undone and needs to be replaced.

Jack: The door handle?

Tina: No. You know, the **whatchamacallit** that attaches the door to the door frame and allows the door to swing open.

Jack: Oh, the hinge?

Tina: Yeah, that's it. The hinge! I need to replace a hinge so I'm going to go down to the hardware store to pick up a new one.

Jack: If you need help installing it, just let me know. I'm pretty handy.

Sunny: Could you pass me the **whatchamacallit** over there on my dresser?

Sean: The what?

Sunny: The thing for my hair.

Sean: There's a brush and a hair band on your dresser. Which one do you want?

Sunny: The brush, please. Pass me the brush.

Sean: OK. Here you are.

Sunny: Thanks.

A vibe

The atmosphere or feeling created by a place, person, or thing can be called **a vibe**. In this episode, Andrew and Ben talk about the traditional **vibe** of the cocktail bar where Ben works. The cocktail bar has a very old-fashioned and traditional atmosphere.

Here are a couple more examples with **a vibe**:

Monica: I checked out the new student bar that opened up on campus.

Bobby: How is it?

Monica: It's got a pretty cool **vibe**. It's laid back and relaxed.

Bobby: Sounds like it would be a good place to grab a drink after class.

Monica: Yeah, exactly.

Bobby: Cool. I'll have to check it out sometime soon.

Monica: Yeah! Let me know when you're going and I'll join you.

Bobby: Sounds good.

Aaron: What do you think of Sara's new boyfriend?

Carmen: Something about him is just not right.

Aaron: I agree. He has a weird **vibe** to him.

Carmen: Totally. Anyways, Sara seems to like him so who are we to judge?

Aaron: Yeah, that's true, but I'm glad to hear I'm not the only one who thinks he's a little strange.

Quiz

1. Which of the following expressions describes a place or person that is popular and has existed for many years?
 - a) an ode
 - b) a monument
 - c) an institution
 - d) a rookie

2. When someone drinks excessive amounts of alcohol, what body part do they drink off?
 - a) their hair
 - b) their face
 - c) their legs
 - d) their hands

3. Which of the following is a synonym for atmosphere?
 - a) vibe
 - b) loop
 - c) flare
 - d) attitude

Quiz Answers

1.c 2.b 3.a

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