

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 3 Practice 2

In this practice you will learn

B1 ENGLISH CHAPTER 3 Practice 2		Completed		Your Score
		Yes	No	
B1 Speaking	• Asking a favor	☐	☐	/
Read these magazines	➤ Bonfire Night	☐	☐	/
	➤ Diwali	☐	☐	/

Speaking: B1

Asking a favour

In this video, Noelia asks Paul for some help. Listen to the language Noelia uses to ask a favour and practise saying the useful phrases.

Before watching

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. Have you got a?
a. bit b. minute c. time
2. I need a
a. favour b. rescue c. service
3. What can I you with?
a. attend b. guide c. help
4. I'm really about this but ...
a. bad b. bored c. sorry
5. Would you be to work tomorrow?
a. able b. easy c. possible
6. I'm not really if I can.
a. clear b. decided c. sure
7. Is there any you could work late?
a. chance b. luck c. opportunity
8. I would if I, but I can't.
a. can b. could c. will

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Paul is relaxing, having a break from work.	True	False
2. Paul enjoyed the Active Arctic project.	True	False
3. Noelia wants Paul to do more work on the Active Arctic project.	True	False
4. Paul has another project to finish urgently.	True	False
5. Paul has arranged to take his daughter to the cinema.	True	False
6. Paul wants to be paid for the extra work.	True	False

Task 2

Complete the text with words from the box.

able	can	chance	could	help
I need a	minute	sorry	sure	would

Noelia: Paul, have you got a (1).....? (2)..... favour.

Paul: I'm a bit busy, but sure, what can I (3)..... you with?

Noelia: So, you know the branding job for Active Arctic?

Paul: Yes?

Noelia: Yeah, so ... look, I'm really (4)..... about this, but they want some more changes made.

Paul: Seriously? I've already rewritten that copy, I don't know, like, 20 times?

Noelia: I know. I'm so sorry. Would you be (5)..... to work on it this afternoon?

Paul: Well, I'm not really (6)..... if I (7)....., Noelia.

Noelia: Is there any (8)..... you could work late tonight?

Paul: Sorry, Noelia. I (9)..... if I (10)....., but I can't.

Task 3

Write one word to fill the gaps.

Noelia: Emir, have you (1)..... a minute?

Emir: Yeah, sure.

Noelia: Look, I'm really sorry (2)..... this, but I need (3)..... favour.

Emir: What (4)..... I help you (5).....?

Noelia: I'm so sorry, but Lemontree want to meet tomorrow morning. Would you (6)..... able (7)..... prepare the presentation for then?

Emir: For tomorrow morning? I'm (8)..... really sure (9)..... I can.

Noelia: Is there (10)..... chance you could work on it this afternoon?

Emir: I'm sorry. I (11)..... if I (12)....., but I can't.

Discussion

When was the last time you did someone a favour?

Transcript

Ana: Hi! I'm Ana. Welcome to *What to Say!*

Do you know what to say when you want to ask a favour? Listen out for useful language for asking a favour. Then, we'll practise saying the new phrases – after this.

Noelia: Paul, have you got a minute? I need a favour.

Paul: I'm a bit busy, but sure, what can I help you with?

Noelia: So, you know the branding job for Active Arctic?

Paul: Of course. It was so good to finally finish that project. It went on and on and on ...

Noelia: Yeah, so ... look, I'm really sorry about this, but they want some more changes made.

Paul: Seriously? I've already rewritten that copy, I don't know, like, 20 times?

Noelia: I know. I'm so sorry. Would you be able to work on it this afternoon?

Paul: Well, I'm not really sure if I can, Noelia. I'm finishing the Moosh Monkey social media campaign and they're expecting it by the end of the day.

Noelia: I'd forgotten about that. Is there any chance you could work late tonight?

Paul: Sorry, Noelia. I would if I could, but I can't.

Noelia: Please?

Paul: I'm taking my niece to the cinema for her birthday. It's been planned for ages.

Noelia: OK. Well, then could you come in early tomorrow? I'll make it up to you!

Paul: OK. How?

Noelia: Name your price.

Paul: An extra day's holiday?

Noelia: Can you get in for 5 a.m.?

Paul: 7 a.m.

Noelia: 6 a.m.

Paul: Deal.

Noelia: Deal.

Ana: Hello again! Looks like that's an early start for Paul tomorrow, then! So, did you notice the useful phrases used for asking a favour? Listen to me and then repeat.

Have you got a minute?

I need a favour.

What can I help you with?

I'm really sorry about this, but they want some changes.

Would you be able to work this afternoon?

I'm not really sure if I can.

Is there any chance you could work late?

I would if I could, but I can't.

Ana: Try and use some of these phrases the next time you want to ask a favour in English. Bye for now!

Bonfire Night

If you're ever in the UK on the evening of 5 November, you might wonder why you can hear fireworks. Bonfire Night is celebrated all over the country, but what is it about? Find out about the history of this well-loved event in this article.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. a bonfire
2. fireworks
3. gunpowder
4. a plot
5. to commit treason
6. to blow up something
7. a barrel
8. to be suspicious

Definition

- a. a plan to do something, usually something bad or wrong
- b. to make something explode
- c. a large, round wooden container
- d. coloured fire or explosions in the sky used in celebrations
- e. to think someone is doing bad things
- f. powder that explodes when lit
- g. a big fire people build with wood
- h. to be disloyal to your government

Bonfire Night

Bonfire Night can be a hard celebration to explain. It's also sometimes called Guy Fawkes Night – but who was Guy Fawkes and what's it all about? Well, Guy Fawkes tried to blow up London's Houses of Parliament in 1605 because he wanted to kill King James I. So British people celebrate that night, 5 November, with bonfire parties, including huge bonfires in public parks, and firework displays.

But isn't it strange to celebrate a plot to kill the king?

Well, yes, it would be. But if you know more about the history of Bonfire Night and the Gunpowder Plot, its traditions make more sense. You see, the first Bonfire Night, on 5 November 1606, wasn't exactly a celebration. It was a warning: 'This is what happens if you commit treason.'

Who was Guy Fawkes?

Guy Fawkes was a soldier and he was not the only person involved in the plot to blow up Parliament. He made his plan with a group of 12 English Catholic gentlemen. The leader was Sir Robert Catesby. As a soldier, Fawkes was in charge of the gunpowder. The men rented a

room underneath Parliament and filled 36 barrels with gunpowder – probably about 2,500 kilograms. Fawkes stayed to blow up the barrels and then escape. But someone sent a letter to Lord Montague, a Catholic, to tell him not to go to Parliament that day. In this way, the plot was discovered, and Guy Fawkes was caught before he could carry it out.

All the members of the plot were either killed or arrested and then killed in public. Parliament ordered a national day to give thanks for the safety of the king on 5 November. People had to go to church and they celebrated with a big bonfire. By the 1650s, the celebration included fireworks and later a ‘guy’ – a man made of straw and old clothes and burned on the bonfire.

Why was there a plot?

Guy Fawkes and the other members of the plot didn’t like the way Protestant James I (and Queen Elizabeth I before him) treated Catholics like them. At that time, Catholics couldn’t have their own churches. They had to practise their religion in secret, and it was very dangerous if they were caught. The Gunpowder Plot was not the first Catholic plan to try to kill the king, but it was the biggest. Afterwards, many people were suspicious of Catholics, even as late as the 18th and 19th centuries. This was very unfair, as most Catholics were peaceful and were also shocked by the plots.

Bonfire Night today

The celebrations have remained mostly the same for hundreds of years, although people nowadays don’t go to church as part of the day. Most towns and villages organise public displays where you can stand by huge bonfires and watch the fireworks as you eat a toffee apple or a hot snack. Many children learn this poem about Bonfire Night at school, and they look forward to a special evening out:

Remember, remember the 5th of November,
Gunpowder, treason and plot.
I see no reason why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot.

So if you’re ever in the UK on 5 November, you’ll now know what all the noise is about!

Tasks

Task 1

Write numbers next to the sentences to put them in order from 1–8.

- Lord Monteagle received a warning letter.
- People stopped going to church to celebrate Bonfire Night.
- There were small plots to kill King James I.
- Parliament declared 5 November a public celebration.
- Guy Fawkes, Robert Catesby and other men found a room under Parliament.
- Catholics were treated badly under Queen Elizabeth I.
- Guy Fawkes organised the gunpowder in barrels.
- Guy Fawkes was caught and put in prison.

Task 2

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Treason was not a crime in 1605.	True	False
2. Guy Fawkes was the main organiser of the plot.	True	False
3. Guy Fawkes was the only one who died for his part in the Gunpowder Plot.	True	False
4. King James was not popular with Catholics.	True	False
5. There were consequences for Catholics even after the 17th century.	True	False
6. Most British people don't know the history behind Bonfire Night.	True	False

Discussion

Have you been to a celebration with fire and fireworks? What did it celebrate?

Diwali is a festival of light which originated in South Asia and is celebrated over five days. The dates change every year, but it is always celebrated in October or November and is now celebrated around the world.

Before reading

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. to symbolise
2. a bank holiday
3. valuables
4. prosperity
5. a demon
6. a victory
7. a battle
8. a doughnut

Definition

- a. a fight between different groups
- b. a small, fried cake
- c. an official holiday when most shops are closed
- d. an evil spirit
- e. to represent or stand for something
- f. having more than enough money for a good life
- g. objects that are worth a lot of money
- h. when you win a fight or competition

Diwali

Diwali comes from the word *deepavali*, which means ‘rows of lighted lamps’. During the festival, these lamps, called *diyas*, are used everywhere. They symbolise the victory of light over darkness, or good over evil.

Diwali is celebrated differently in different regions and by different religions and is a bank holiday in many countries, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, Singapore, Malaysia, Mauritius, Fiji, Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. It is often considered a Hindu festival, but in fact it is also celebrated by Sikhs, Jains and Newari Buddhists.

Here are some of the things that happen during the five days of Diwali.

Day One – Dhanteras, or Day of Fortune

The first day has a focus on fortune, both good luck and money or valuables. People may wash money to show that they intend to use it to do good in the world. It is also a day for helping people who are not as well off.

It is a lucky day for buying gold and silver and other metals, so people often buy jewellery or cars, or anything made of metal. It is estimated that last year Indians spent about \$3.9 billion during Diwali.

People also make sure that their houses are clean, ready to welcome in Lakshmi, the Goddess of Wealth and Prosperity, in the evening.

Day Two – Naraka Chaturdashi

According to Hindu stories, the demon Narakasura was killed on this day. The day is all about getting rid of anything bad. People get up early and wash and put on clean or new clothes.

Afterwards, they will celebrate by having a special breakfast with their friends and family. This day, also known as Chhoti Diwali, is a day for visiting friends, business associates and relatives, and for exchanging gifts.

Day Three – Diwali

In most regions, this is the most important day of the festival. It is the last day of the year in many regions of India. The story goes that on this day, Lord Rama rescued his wife, Sita, from the demon Ravana. Candles are lit to celebrate his victory, and to light his way home after the battle. In the evening, people may set off fireworks.

Day Four – Annakut

Annakut means ‘mountain of food’. Hindus prepare a great deal of food and take it to the temple to celebrate the beginning of the new year.

Food is important throughout the period of Diwali, especially traditional sweet treats such as *gulab jamun* (a very sweet deep-fried doughnut), *kheer* (a creamy dessert made with rice) or *barfi* (a sweet made with condensed milk and sugar).

Day Five – Bhai Dhooj

This is the last day of Diwali, and it also sometimes celebrates the relationship between brother and sister. Brothers may visit their married sisters’ homes, and they will take gifts.

A universal symbol

Diwali is celebrated by millions of people in India and across the world. The festival marks different historical events and stories for each faith that celebrates it, but for all the faiths it symbolises the victory of good over evil, and darkness over light, which means something to all of us.

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. The lamps (<i>diya</i>) symbolise the beginning of winter.	True	False
2. Diwali is only celebrated by Hindus.	True	False
3. Shopping is an important part of Diwali.	True	False
4. On Naraka Chaturdashi, people wash after a large breakfast.	True	False
5. Day Three of Diwali is not always the most important day of the festival.	True	False
6. People only eat sweet foods on Day Four of the festival.	True	False

Task 2

Write a number (1–5) to write the number of the day these events happen.

- The year ends.
- People spend a lot of money.
- Relatives take presents to each other.
- People put on brand-new clothes.
- The new year begins.

Discussion

What is the most important festival in your country? What do you do to celebrate?