

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 2: Episode 1

While you listen

While you listen, read and answer the questions below.
Remember there may be more than one correct answer.

Section 1

1. Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick all the phrases you think are true. There may be more than one right answer.

- a) It's Tess's birthday
- b) Tess is going to a French restaurant tonight
- c) Tess is going to buy a pair of boots
- d) Ravi gives Tess a present for her birthday

Section 2

2. What do they say about knitting? Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Ravi likes knitting
- b) Knitting is popular nowadays
- c) Esther isn't sure about the history of knitting
- d) A lot of men knitted in the nineteenth century

Section 3

3. Listen to Mark doing the quiz. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Mark lives and works in Nottingham
- b) The answers to the quiz are all people
- c) Mark gets nine answers right
- d) Ravi promises to send Mark a present

Section 4

4. How many people say that their favourite food is Italian? Tick the right number.

- a) Four
- b) Three
- c) Two
- d) One

Section 5

5. Listen to Carolina and Jamie. Tick all the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Carolina wants to buy a new pair of boots
- b) Carolina and Jamie go to three different shoe shops
- c) Carolina is a British size five for shoes
- d) Jamie enjoyed shopping for shoes with Carolina

6. What colour shoes does Carolina buy? Tick the right colour.

- a) red
- b) brown
- c) grey
- d) black

Section 6

7. Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Gordon is going to tell a joke in the next podcast
- b) Ravi gives Tess a book for her birthday
- c) Tess likes cooking
- d) Tess doesn't like the present very much

Section 1: "It's Tess's birthday today...!"

Useful phrases

A: When's your birthday?
 B: In March. It's the 15th, actually.
 A: Oh, so what sign is that?
 B: Pisces, actually.

Frequent joke

A: It's my birthday today
 B: Happy Birthday! [Gives friend a kiss]
 A: Thank you. Yes, 21 again!
 B: And you don't look a day over 20!

Joke explained...

In this joke, A says "21 again". This means "I am 21 years old – again", because it means she always says she is 21
B joins in the joke by saying A looks young. For example, if someone says that are 30, you can say 'You don't look a day over 25' (no older than 25).
But here B plays a joke: because A said '21', B says 'a day over 20' – in other words, she looks exactly as old as she says she is.

Congratulating people on their birthdays

Ravi: It's Tess's birthday today, isn't it?
 Tess: Yeah, it is.
 Ravi: Happy birthday!
{sound of kiss on the cheek}
 Tess: Thank you.
 Ravi: Are you doing anything special?
 Tess: Well, I'm going out for dinner with some friends tonight and then we might go to a club. I'm not really sure.
 Ravi: Sounds good. Where are you going to eat? Is it somewhere a bit special or ... *{leaves question hanging}*
 Tess: Yeah, it's a French place. I've heard it's really good but I haven't been there.
 Ravi: I'm sure it'll be great. *{pause}* Any good presents?
 Tess: Well, I got some money from my mum and dad to buy myself something nice so I'm going to get some new boots with that. And that's it, so far
 Ravi: Well, I'll get you a coffee when we finish here, OK?
 Tess: OK. And a cake?
 Ravi: Oh go on then. A small one.

What to say when someone says:
It's Gilly's birthday today!

The conversation		Notes
A	It's Gilly's birthday today!	Someone tells you it's (Gilly's) birthday
B	Oh, is it? I'm sorry – I didn't know.	1) Apologise and say you didn't know
	Many Happy Returns!	2) Formally congratulate them: say either: <i>Many happy returns!</i> (this phrase is only used for birthdays) or <i>Congratulations!</i> (you can use this for passing exams, engagements, etc.)
	What are you doing to celebrate?	Ask what their plans are (but don't expect to be invited!)

	Are you going anywhere nice/special? or Have you got any special plans?	
A	Well, I'm going out for dinner with some friends tonight	They tell you their plans
B	Oh? Anywhere special?	You show interest and ask another question. See "Plans for the weekend"
Note: from now, this conversation follows the structure for "Plans for the weekend" See Series 1 Podcast 09, Section 1 - Exercise 1.		

What to say when:

Giving and receiving a present

In social terms, when a child becomes an adult, they stop wanting to have presents on their birthdays. This, of course, is not true!

But it does mean that we have to pretend that we don't want presents, and when we give them, we have to make them look not very important.

The following may help you to give and receive a present in the UK. A is the 'Giver' who gives the present; today is B's birthday.

The conversation		Notes
A	Hey, I've got a little surprise for you.	Notice how we make the present look small. We say: 'It's just a little something I thought you would like', or 'It's not much, but I thought you'd like it'
B	Really?	Very important to act surprised!
A	Here you are. Happy birthday.	Give the present and say the formal words, either 'Happy Birthday' or 'Many Happy Returns'
B	Oh thank you! Oh, you shouldn't have. What is it?	First , thank the giver Second , say that the gift was unnecessary. B wasn't expecting a present. Third , ask what is inside the present. We always do this, asking 'What is it?' or 'What can it be?' 'What on earth could it be?', etc.
A	Well open it and see.	The giver tells B (or gives B permission?) to open it
B	{sound of present being opened}	<i>In the UK, most people give presents wrapped in special paper. Some people tear the paper open, others open it very carefully, trying not to tear the paper. What sort of</i>

		<i>person are you?</i>
B	Oh look! It's a camera! Oh thank you very much, [Jamie]. That's fantastic/lovely/really great/etc.	1) B makes a noise of appreciation: Ohh! Gosh! 2) B names the present: "It's a camera ..." 3) B says "Thank you" and uses the giver's name 4) B says how nice the present is
A	Oh, good. You haven't already got one, have you?	A is happy they bought the right thing: they often say: "I'm glad you like it..." A may ask if B has already got the same gift
B	No, no I haven't.	B must say they haven't got one (even if they already <i>have</i> got one!)
A	Good! Well, I thought you'd like it because...[explain reason for choosing]	A explains why they chose it: "I bought it because I know you like..."
B	Oh, yes, [explain why it is a good choice]. It's a lovely present. Thank you. Come here. { <i>sound of a kiss</i> }	1) B confirms A's choice and reason. 2) B says they like it again 3) B says thank you again 4) B gives A a kiss (if appropriate)

Section 1, Exercise 1:

Tess and Ravi have a conversation just like this in the podcast. Here is their conversation, but the lines are in the wrong order. Can you put them in the right order? Use the table above to help you.

See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Order	Line	Order	Line	Order	Line	Order	Line
1st		4th		7th		10th	
2nd		5th		8th		11th	
3rd		6th		9th		12th	

Line	What they said
A	<i>Ravi:</i> Here you are. Happy birthday.
B	<i>{sound of present being opened}</i>
C	<i>Tess:</i> It's a lovely present. Thank you.
D	<i>Ravi:</i> Well open it and see.
E	<i>Ravi:</i> Well, I thought French food was your favourite, but now...
F	<i>Tess:</i> <i>{suspiciously}</i> Really?
G	<i>Tess:</i> A French cookery book!
H	<i>Ravi:</i> Hey Tess, I've got a little surprise for you.
I	<i>Tess:</i> Come here. <i>{sound of a kiss}</i>
J	<i>Tess:</i> Thank you Ravi. That's really great.
K	<i>Tess:</i> Oh thank you! <i>{pause}</i> What is it?
L	<i>Tess:</i> Oh, silly, I love French food – and I love cooking.

Section 2 – Would like to talk about

In this section, you heard Esther talking about her hobby – knitting. Do you have a hobby that you would like to tell us about? Write a paragraph about your hobby and then, if you want, you can send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Here are some ideas and phrases to help you. Of course, these are only ideas – you can write anything that you want!

Ideas and phrases to help you

I'd like/ I'm going to talk / write /tell you about

My hobby is

I like / enjoy...knitting/collecting postcards/painting/making models/ etc*

**NB – Notice that the verbs all end with 'ing'.*

[.....] is/isn't (very) popular/fashionable/unusual/common

(Quite) a lot of people/not very many people [.....]

I started [.....] when I was (fifteen/a child/a teenager) / in (1995) / a long time ago/ a few years ago/ etc etc

One thing I really like about [.....] is

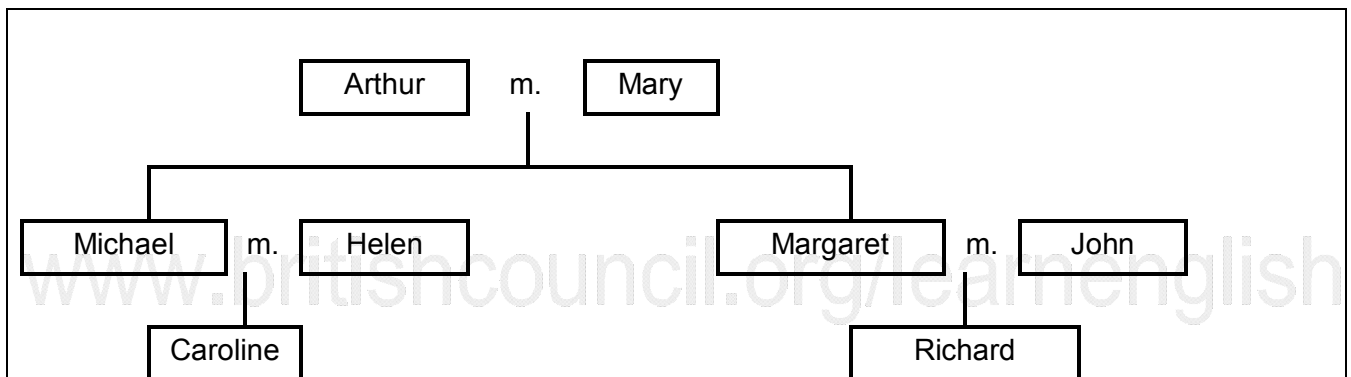
If you [.....] then you can

[.....] started a long time ago/in the 1960s/hundreds of years ago/recently/ etc etc

[.....] is easy/difficult/exciting/interesting/relaxing/good fun/ etc because...

Now put your ideas together to write a paragraph. If you want, you can send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. You can download and read the transcript if you need more ideas or help.

Section 3 – Quiz



Section 3 , Exercise 1: Quiz

The quiz this time was about people in your life, including members of the family. Look at this family tree. Can you put the words in the box in the right spaces in the sentences?

See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

son	son-in-law	grandfather	brother
cousin	daughter-in-law	granddaughter	uncle
father-in-law	husband	grandson	aunt
mother-in-law	daughter	mother	nephew
sister-in-law	wife	father	niece
brother in law	grandmother	sister	

1	Arthur is Caroline's	13	Margaret is Michael's
2	Arthur is Helen's	14	Margaret is Richard's
3	Mary is Caroline's	15	John is Arthur's
4	Mary is Helen's	16	John is Michael's
5	Michael is Helen's	17	Richard is Mary's
6	Michael is Caroline's	18	Richard is Caroline's
7	Michael is Richard's	19	Richard is Michael's
8	Michael is Margaret's	20	Richard is Margaret's
9	Helen is Michael's	21	Caroline is Michael's
10	Helen is Mary's	22	Caroline is Arthur's
11	Helen is Margaret's	23	Caroline is Margaret's
12	Helen is Richard's		

Section 4 – Your turn

In 'Your Turn' this time the question was 'Which country's food is your favourite? And, of course, why?'

What about you? Do you agree with what any of the people said in the podcast? Is your favourite food Italian, Vietnamese, Thai, French, Indian, Chinese, Mexican? Or maybe even British! Or is it the food from your own country? We'd like you to write to us and tell us *your* opinion.

Send it to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org, and we'll put the best ones on the website.

Here are some ideas to help you:

- you can talk about your general feelings about the food: It's delicious, it's tasty, it's simple, it's complicated, there's a lot of variety (a lot of different things to eat), it's healthy (good for you), it's spicy...
- you can talk about the things that you like best: vegetables, salad, meat, fish, seafood, fruit, rice, beans, cakes, puddings, soups, bread, cheese, eggs...
- you can talk about the ingredients of the food: herbs, spices, oil, fresh/natural ingredients, sauces...
- you can talk about the way that things are cooked: fried (cooked in oil), boiled (cooked in water), roast (cooked in the oven with oil), raw (not cooked) ...
- you can talk about the drinks of the country too: fruit juices, milk drinks, beer, wine, tea, coffee...

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1

Look at these conversations between Carolina and Jamie when Carolina is buying some shoes. Put the expressions in the right places. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

And they're too high	Have you got these in a size 5?	Now these are nice
How much are they?	So which ones do you like best?	The red ones
I'll take these please	Yes, I think I'll get the black ones	Try them on

1	Carolina: They're nice. Jamie: Which ones? Those boots? Carolina: No, those shoes at the back. _____. Let's go in and have a look.
2	Carolina: Five and a half. What does that mean? I'm a thirty-six in Venezuela. Jamie: Yeah, British sizes are different. _____. See if they fit.
3	Jamie: What about these red ones? Carolina: They're horrible! _____. I can't wear very high heels – I can't walk.
4	Jamie: These black ones then. They're a size 5. Carolina: Mmm. They're quite nice. _____ Jamie: Ninety-five pounds.
5	Carolina: _____. Black. Not too high. And not too expensive. Jamie: Why don't you try them on?
6	Carolina: Excuse me? _____ Shop Assistant: In a 5? In black or grey? Carolina: I'd like to try both of them please.
7	Carolina: _____ – the grey ones or the black ones? Jamie: They're both nice.
8	Jamie: OK, if I say I prefer the black ones, can we just buy them and get out of here? Carolina: _____. Do you like them? Or do you prefer the grey ones?
9	Carolina: Excuse me, Shop assistant: Yes? Carolina: _____. Shop assistant: The black ones?

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 2

Look again at some of Jamie and Carolina's conversations. Choose all the phrases that people can say – there is always more than one correct answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Carolina: They're nice.

Jamie: Which ones? Those boots?

Carolina: No, those shoes at the back. _____. Let's go in and have a look.

- a) The red
- b) They're red
- c) The red ones
- d) Those red ones

2. Carolina: Five and a half. What does that mean? I'm a thirty-six in Venezuela.

Jamie: Yeah, British sizes are different. _____. See if they fit.

- a) Try them on
- b) Put them on
- c) Try them
- d) Wear them

3. Jamie: What about these red ones?

Carolina: They're horrible! _____. I can't wear very high heels – I can't walk.

- a) And they're really high
- b) And they're very high
- c) And they're higher
- d) And they're too high

4. Jamie: These black ones then. They're a size 5.

Carolina: Mmm. They're quite nice. _____?

Jamie: Ninety-five pounds.

- a) What's the cost?
- b) How much are they?
- c) How many pounds?
- d) How much do they cost?

5. Carolina: Now _____. Black. Not too high. And not too expensive.

Jamie: Why don't you try them on?

- a) these are well
- b) I like these
- c) these are nice
- d) these are better

6. Carolina: Excuse me? _____?

Shop Assistant: In a 5? In black or grey?

- a) Have you got a number 5?
- b) Is there a size 5?
- c) Do you have these in a size 5?
- d) Have you got these in a size 5?

7. Carolina: So _____ – the grey ones or the black ones?

Jamie: They're both nice.

- a) which ones do you like best?
- b) which ones do you prefer?
- c) which ones shall I buy?
- d) which ones would you like?

8. Jamie: OK, if I say I prefer the black ones, can we just buy them and get out of here?

Carolina: Yes, _____ the black ones. Do you like them? Or do you prefer the grey ones?

- a) I think I'll buy
- b) I'm going to get
- c) I buy
- d) I think I'll get

9. Carolina: Excuse me,

Shop assistant: Yes?

Carolina: _____.

Shop assistant: The black ones?

- a) I'll take these please
- b) I take these please
- c) Can I take these please?
- d) Will I take these please?

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 3

Now imagine you're in a shoe shop with a friend. Complete the conversation.

You: I like those shoes.

Friend: Which ones?

You: _____

Friend: What size are you?

You: _____

Friend: Try them on, see if they fit.

You: No _____.

You: *[ask the shop assistant for the shoes in your size]* _____?

Shop assistant: No, I'm sorry. We've only got the ones on the shelf.

Friend: What about these?

You: No, *[say why you don't like the shoes]* _____ . *[say what kind of shoes you want]* _____ .

Friend: Well, what about these?

You: Yes, _____ . *[ask about the price]* _____ ?

Friend: Thirty-nine pounds. Why don't you try them on? They've got them in lots of different colours.

You: _____ *[ask your friend's opinion]* _____ ?

Friend: I think I prefer the black ones. What about you?

You: _____

Friend: Well, buy them then.

You: *[tell the shop assistant you want to buy the shoes]* _____

Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 1

Choose the one best answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. A: Do you like these shoes?

B: Well, I think I prefer the _____.

- a) black one
- b) black ones
- c) blacks

2. What about these boots. Do you like _____?

- a) –
- b) they
- c) them

3. This jacket is too small. Have you got a bigger _____?

- a) it
- b) one
- c) –

4. A: Which is your car?

B: The blue _____ over there.

- a) it
- b) one
- c) –

5. Happy birthday! I bought you a present. I hope you like _____.

- a) one
- b) it
- c) –

6. Mmmm. These chocolates are delicious. Would you like _____?

- a) one
- b) –
- c) it

7. I like small dogs, but I'm afraid of big _____.

- a) –
- b) them
- c) ones

8. You're afraid of big dogs? I'm afraid of _____ too!

- a) ones
- b) them
- c) they

Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 2

Look at the mini dialogues. Choose the best phrase for each situation.

See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. A: Did you know I'm eighteen today?

B: Really? _____

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Happy birthday!
- c) Good luck!

2. A: Here you are. You see, I didn't forget your birthday.

B: A present! Thank you! _____

- a) Bless you!
- b) It's lovely!
- c) Good luck!

3. A: My daughter is going to have a baby. I'm going to be a grandfather!

B: That's great news! _____

- a) Congratulations!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Have a nice time!

4. A: I'm off to Portugal tomorrow for my holidays.

B: Are you? _____

- a) Cheers!
- b) Have a nice time!
- c) Congratulations!

5. A: I've got my final English exam tomorrow.

B: _____

- a) Good luck!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Cheers!

6. A: Atchoo! Atchoo!

B: _____

A: Thank you. I think I'm getting a cold.

- a) Bless you!
- b) Cheers!
- c) Well done!

7 A: I think I'm getting a cold. I feel really terrible.

B: Oh no! _____

- a) It's lovely!
- b) Have a nice time!
- c) Poor old you!

8. A: Hello. _____ What lovely decorations!

B: Same to you. Come in. Your present is under the tree.

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Merry Christmas!
- c) Congratulations!

9. A: OK that's it. The end of 2005 and the beginning of 2006.

B: Yes, it's two minutes past midnight. _____

- a) Have a nice time!
- b) Good luck!
- c) Happy New Year!

10 A: We've been married for ten years today.

B: Really? _____

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Happy birthday!

11. A: Hey! I passed the exam. I got 19 out of 20.

B: _____

- a) Good luck!
- b) Well done!
- c) It's lovely!

12. A: OK, has everyone got a drink?

B: Yes I think so. OK. _____

- a) Cheers!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Poor old you!

Transcript

Section 1: "It's Tess's birthday today...!"

Ravi: Hello and welcome to the Second series of the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. This is podcast number one. If you listened to the first series you'll remember – I hope – that my name's Ravi...

Tess: ... and I'm Tess. Yes, we're back again. I hope you didn't miss us too much. We've had a little break – did you go anywhere nice Ravi?

Ravi: No.

Tess: – and now we're back with more good stuff for you to listen to. We've got...

Ravi: Aren't you going to tell them, Tess? I'll tell them if you don't. We've chosen a special day to come back – it's Tess's birthday today, isn't it?

Tess: Yeah, it is.

Ravi: Happy birthday!

{sound of kiss on the cheek}

Tess: Thank you.

Ravi: Are you doing anything special?

Tess: Well, I'm going out for dinner with some friends tonight and then we might go to a club. I'm not really sure.

Ravi: Sounds good. Where are you going to eat? Is it somewhere a bit special or ...

Tess: Yeah, it's a French place. I've heard it's really good but I haven't been there.

Ravi: I'm sure it'll be great. Any good presents?

Tess: Well, I got some money from my mum and dad to buy myself something nice so I'm going to get some new boots with that. And that's it, so far

Ravi: Well, I'll get you a coffee when we finish here, OK?

Tess: OK. And a cake?

Ravi: Oh go on then. A small one. But let's get on with it. What have we got today?

Tess

We've got our quiz, then we've got people telling us about their favourite food. And Carolina's back again.

Ravi: Right. If you're listening and you don't remember Carolina, she's a student from Venezuela who's come to Britain to study and

we follow her in every podcast to hear how she's getting on.

Section 2: I'd like to talk about...

Tess: But to start with, we've got something new. This section is called 'I'd like to talk about...' In every podcast, we'll talk to someone who wants to tell us about something that they're interested in. It could be anything – a hobby, a person, a place, a thing – something that you know a bit about and would like to share with Ravi and me – and all our listeners of course. And to start us off with 'I'd like to talk about ...' we've got Esther here with us. Esther. Hello.

Esther: Good morning.

Ravi: Hi Esther. Welcome to the podcast.

You're a student aren't you?

Esther: Hello Ravi. Yes, that's right.

Ravi: Here in London? What are you studying?

Esther: Yeah. Chemistry. I'm doing a Masters.

Ravi: Blimey. Is that what you're going to tell us about? I'm lost already.

Esther: No, actually. I'd like to talk about knitting.

Ravi: Knitting?

Esther: Yeah, knitting. It's really popular nowadays you know. Lots of young people are doing it. There's a university knitting club that I'm in.

Ravi: But why do people want to knit?

Tess: To make things Ravi! To make things to wear! You're wearing a jumper – it's made of wool – well, it's knitted, isn't it? You get the wool from a sheep and you knit a jumper! Or socks! Or a scarf!

Ravi: OK, OK, OK, don't go crazy - it was a stupid question. Sorry Esther.

Esther: That's OK. But you know, there are some men in our knitting club too, and some of them are really good at it. Knitting's really quite fashionable now. There are celebrity knitters and everything.

Ravi: Yeah?

Esther: Yeah. There's Madonna, and erm ... Julia Roberts and Uma Thurman. Lots of people. And of course, nowadays people are more worried about the environment and trying to recycle things, and so knitting's perfect. You can take an old jumper that you don't like any more and make something new. It's a cheap way to get clothes.

Tess: Good point. Do you know anything about the history of knitting Esther? When did it start?

Esther: Not really. Some people say that it started with people making nets, you know, for catching fish or animals, but nobody knows for sure. I saw a pair of socks once in a museum. They were from Egypt, about a thousand years old I think. They were beautiful, really complicated, but that's the oldest thing I know.

Ravi: That's interesting.

Esther: Remember that they didn't have machines for knitting till the nineteenth century, so everything was done by hand - even clothes for kings and queens. In England it was always men that knitted for the rich people. They had to do six years' training to become 'master' knitters.

Ravi: Six years!

Tess: So women didn't knit?

Esther: Well poor women did of course. In fact the whole family used to knit - the fathers and the children too - making socks and things that they could sell to make money.

Tess: Did you make that jumper you're wearing?

Esther: Yes, I did.

Tess: It's really nice.

Esther: Thank you. It took me ages.

Tess: I could never make something like that.

Esther: You could. You have to practise but it's not *that* difficult. That's another thing I like about knitting. When you start you can just do kind of simple things like scarves and stuff and then when you get a bit better at it you can make more difficult things like this.

Tess: Well, that's great. Thanks very much

Esther. Really interesting.

Esther: Thank you.

Tess: Ravi? What do you think? Want to start knitting?

Ravi: Hmm. Maybe. Hey, Tess. What do you get if you cross a sheep with a kangaroo?

Tess: A father sheep and a mother kangaroo? Or the other way round?

Ravi: I don't know - it doesn't matter Tess. The joke's just 'what do you get if you cross a sheep with a kangaroo?'.

Tess: Go on

Ravi: A woolly jumper.

Tess: You've been waiting to say that, haven't you?

Ravi: Yeah.

Tess: Well, Esther is going to give us some

knitting pictures and links to put up on the site if you want to find out more.

Ravi: You enjoyed that, didn't you? Why don't you try and knit something?

Tess: I could, couldn't I? I could make you a scarf for your birthday. When *is* your birthday? Is it in June?

Ravi: Yeah, the fifteenth. You've got plenty of time if you start now.

Tess: Ho, ho. Oh. I forgot to say, listeners, if you want to write something or record something you can send it to us at learn English podcast at British Council dot org, that's learnenglishpodcast - all one word - at - britishcouncil - all one word DOT org, that's o-r-g. Like I said, it can be whatever you want - a hobby, a person, anything. Or just tell us if you like knitting. Send it to us and we'll put the best answers on the site.

Section 3 - Quiz

Ravi: OK. Time now to go to the phone to talk to today's quiz contestant, who is Mark from Nottingham. Hello, Mark? No. Er ..OK ..

Mark: *{on phone}* Hello?

Ravi: Mark! Hi. How are you?

Mark: I'm fine thanks, Ravi.

Ravi: What are you up to today?

Mark: Oh, nothing special. It's my day off so I'm not doing very much.

Ravi: What do you do?

Mark: I work in a clothes shop in Nottingham.

Ravi: Ah. OK. It's not Paul Smith is it? He's from Nottingham isn't he? Great designer.

Mark: No, it's not Paul Smith, He is from Nottingham though. No, I work in a small clothes shop in the centre of town.

Ravi: Do you like it?

Mark: Yeah, it's OK, yeah. It's good.

Ravi: Great. Right. We're going to play 'Hot Seat', OK? Tess?

Tess

Yes. So you're going to play with Ravi today

Mark. I'm going to give Ravi some words - he doesn't know what they are - and he's going to try to explain them so that *you* can guess the words. All right?

Mark: OK.

Tess: And we'll see how many you can get in one minute. Oh .. and the other thing is all the words are connected. This time the connection is - people in your life. Let's do one to practise.

So, for example, if I say, erm, it's your father's brother. Or your mother's brother', who is it?

Mark: Uncle.

Tess: Right. You've got the idea. Are you ready to go?

Mark: Ready.

Tess: OK then. Ready Ravi? Let's start. Here are the words. You've got one minute a starting from now.

Ravi: Right ... erm ... the person who lives next door to you ... erm .. in the house next to yours.

Mark: Neighbour? Next door neighbour?

Ravi: Neighbour. Yes. Erm ... your brother's daughter. Or your sister's daughter. It's your?

Mark: Nephew. I mean niece. Niece.

Ravi: Yes, niece. Someone in the same ... no ... someone who goes to the same school as you and they're ...

Mark: Pupil?

Ravi: No. They've got the same teacher as you and you sit next to them or something. They're your ...?

Mark: Classmate?

Ravi: Yes! Phew! I couldn't say 'class' Erm, come on then ... if you're married this is, like, your wife's dad ...

Mark: Father-in-law.

Ravi: OK. Next one. Someone who you work with, like, Tess is *my* ?

Mark: Friend?

Ravi: No. Well, yes, but that's not what I mean. We work together so we're ...?

Mark: Erm ... I don't know.

Ravi: We ...

Mark: Oh. Colleagues.

Ravi: Colleague, yes. How's the time? Erm .. this person is ... another word for 'manager'. The person who's in charge at work is *your* ...?

Mark: Boss?

Ravi: Yes. Boss. Your uncle's children are your ...?

Buzzer sounds

Mark: Cousins?

Ravi: Yes. OK, I'll give you that one. Phew. That was really stressful. Well done Mark. How many is that Tess?

Tess: Neighbour. Niece. Classmate. Father-in-law. Colleague. Boss and Cousin. Seven. Well done Mark. And Ravi.

Mark: Thanks.

Ravi: And thanks for playing. We'll send you a book token and anything else we can find lying

around the studio. Thanks Mark.

Tess: Right. We've got more to come. We'll hear what some of our listeners say about their favourite food and we'll catch up with Carolina again after *this*

Section 4: Your turn

Ravi: *Now* we can move on to Your Turn. This is the part of the podcast when we go out and ask different people what they think about something. We ask a different question in every podcast, and this time the question was 'Which country's food is your favourite?' – and of course, 'Why?'.

Tess: OK, let's hear what people said.

Voice 1: That would be Vietnamese food, especially southern Vietnamese food around the city of Ho Chi Minh. I've been there many times and each time I go there my friends will bring me to restaurants where they serve food that has ... ah ... that was cooked with a lot of rich ingredients such as lemon grass, herbs, pepper, and they put in lots of different types of seafood so I think that's a lot of effort put in to cook up such a dish. So I actually like Vietnamese food very much. And in addition I think the food there is very healthy. They don't use a lot of oil they use a lot of natural ingredients such as herbs and also fish sauce so what comes out of that is a lot of flavours of seafood plus herbs, which I like very much.

Voice 2: Um, well, I live in Italy at the moment so I'm very fond of Italian food, but really if I had to choose I would say Indian or Thai food because I like spicy food.

Voice 3: My favourite food is food from Italy because I really like pasta and I really like tomato sauce and ... um ... olive oil, and I also like wine and the wine from Italy is very good.

Voice 4: Oh I think I'd have to say France ... ah ... 'cos French cooking is superb, so much variety and they just take it so seriously.

Voice 5: Mmm, I'm going to say two countries, aah maybe Italy, from Europe, because I really, really like pizza and aah the different types of pasta they have there, but probably my real favourite type of food comes from Mexico, which aah I just enjoy everything I've ever tried from Mexico. It's always a little bit spicy, maybe a little bit heavy, umm, but really, really good food.

Voice 6: Aah, I think Thai food because it's ... I like spicy food and it's really kind of fresh, as well, lots of interesting different tastes.

Ravi: So what's your favourite food Tess? I bet it's French.

Tess: No. Why? Why French?

Ravi: You're going to a French restaurant for your birthday aren't you?

Tess: Well yes, but I'm not sure it's my favourite. I don't know, it's a difficult one. Maybe Italian. I mean good Italian, not just fast food pizzas. What about you?

Ravi: No contest. Indian every time. I'm a traditional boy about food. But I love fast food pizzas as well. All fast food actually.

Section 5: Carolina

Ravi: But now it's time to find out what's happening to Carolina. If you listened to the first series of the podcast you'll know that Carolina is from Venezuela and she's just started a course at Newcastle University in Britain.

Tess: Yes. In every podcast we hear what Carolina's been doing. She's already met a lot of people in Newcastle. She shares a flat with her friend Emily and some other students. And her special friend is a guy called Jamie.

Ravi: Yes, Tess likes Jamie.

Tess: Thank you Ravi. Now let's hear about Carolina

{In the street}

Carolina: So I told Emily that she Oh, wait a minute. They're nice.

Jamie: Which ones? Those boots?

Carolina: No, those shoes at the back. The red ones. Let's go in and have a look.

Jamie: OK.

{In the first shoe shop}

Carolina: Here they are. They're beautiful.

Jamie: What size are they?

Carolina: Um, five and a half. What does that mean? I'm a thirty-six in Venezuela.

Jamie: Yeah, British sizes are different. Try them on. See if they fit.

Carolina: No, they're too big.

Jamie: So try a five – that's the next size down. Excuse me, have you got these in a five?

Shop Assistant 1: The red ones? No sorry.

We've only got the sizes on the shelf.

Jamie: OK, thanks. Bad luck. Come on. Let's ...

...

{In the street}

Carolina: OK. But you know, I really do need some shoes. If we're going to stay with your parents I need to look nice.

Jamie: I don't think they'll care what shoes you're wearing.

Carolina: You know what I mean. Let's have a look in here.

Jamie: OK.

{In the second shoe shop}

Jamie: What about these red ones?

Carolina: They're horrible! And they're too high. I can't wear very high heels – I can't walk.

Jamie: Those brown ones then, they're nice.

Carolina: No, I don't want brown – I haven't got any brown clothes.

Jamie: These black ones then. They're a size 5.

Carolina: Mmm. They're quite nice. How much are they?

Jamie: Ninety-five pounds.

Carolina: Ninety-five pounds! I'm not paying ninety-five pounds for a pair of shoes! No, let's go somewhere else. Come on Jamie.

Jamie: But if you like them why don't you...

...

{In the street}

Jamie: So what exactly do you want? What colour?

Carolina: I don't know exactly, but I'll know when I see them. Here's another shop. Come on.

{In the third shoe shop}

Carolina: Now these are nice. Black. Not too high. And not too expensive.

Jamie: Why don't you try them on?

Carolina: Wait a minute. They've got them in grey too. Maybe they're nicer. What do you think?

Jamie: Try them both on.

Carolina: Excuse me? Have you got these in a size 5?

Shop Assistant 2: In a 5? In black or grey?

Carolina: I'd like to try both of them please.

Shop Assistant 2: I'll just go and check.

Jamie: Phew. Let's sit down. Shoe shops make me tired...

...

Carolina: ...so which ones do you like best – the grey ones or the black ones?

Jamie: They're both nice.

Carolina: But tell me which ones you like best.

Jamie: OK then, the grey ones.

Carolina: What's wrong with the black ones?

Jamie: Nothing's wrong with the black ones. I

said I liked them both.

Carolina: I think I prefer the black ones.

Jamie: OK, if I say I prefer the black ones, can we just buy them and get out of here?

Carolina: Yes, I think I'll get the black ones. Do you like them? Or do you prefer the grey ones?

Jamie: Aaaargh!

Carolina: Excuse me,

Shop assistant 2: Yes?

Carolina: I'll take these please.

Shop assistant 2: The black ones?

Carolina: Yes, the black ones. Now where do I pay?

Shop assistant 2: Over here love.

Carolina: Come on Jamie – why are you being so difficult today? ...

Ravi: Poor old Jamie. I think he was a bit bored. Do you like buying shoes Tess?

Tess: Well, yes, I do. I like shoes. Don't you?

Ravi: Well yes, of course I do, but ..., usually I know what shoes I want and I go to the shop and I buy them. I don't go round lots of shops trying them on. I think men and women are different about shoes. OK. I won't say any more. I don't want to upset anybody.

Tess: Good! Anyway, did you hear Carolina say that they're going to visit Jamie's parents?

Ravi: Yes.

Tess: So...

Ravi: So what?

Tess: So... they must be together... you know – a couple.

Ravi: Well yes. Men don't go to shoe shops with women if they're not serious.

Tess: Don't start the shoe thing again.

Ravi: Sorry.

Section 6: The End

Tess: So that's the end of this podcast. You might remember in series one, we always finished with a joke from Gordon. Well, Gordon isn't with us any more. He's got a new job.

Ravi: Yes, and we hope everything goes well for him. Hey Tess, I've got a little surprise for you.

Tess: Really?

Ravi: Here you are. Happy birthday.

Tess: Oh thank you! What is it?

Ravi: Well open it and see.

{sound of present being opened}

Tess: A French cookery book! Thank you Ravi. That's really great.

Ravi: Well, I thought French food was your favourite, but now...

Tess: Oh, silly, I love French food – and I love cooking. It's a lovely present. Thank you. Come here.

{sound of a kiss}

Ravi: So do you want to say the last bit, birthday girl? Before we go and get that cake?

Tess: OK. Well, that's the end of *our* part of the podcast, and remember, the address for anything that you want to send us is learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. In a moment you can listen to Tom, our English teacher. He's going to talk about some of the language you heard in this podcast and things to help you learn. So, stay around to listen to Tom but we'll say goodbye for now.

Tess & Ravi: Bye!

Tom the teacher

Tom: Hi, I'm Tom. At the end of every podcast you'll hear from me. I'm going to talk about some of the language you heard in the programmes and talk about ways to help you learn English. The first thing I want to talk about is the word 'one'. Listen to Ravi at the beginning of the podcast.

Ravi: Hello and welcome to the Second series of the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. This is podcast number one.

Tom: OK. No problem there. Ravi says 'this is podcast number one'. He uses 'one' as a number. One, two, three, four, five etcetera. Now listen to Tess and Ravi. Listen for 'one'.

Ravi: Well, I'll get you a coffee when we finish here, OK?

Tess: OK. And a cake?

Ravi: Oh go on then. A small one.

Tom: 'One' isn't a number here. Ravi isn't saying 'a small one, a small two'. 'One' here is a pronoun – it's used in place of a noun – a thing. Listen again. What does 'one' refer to?

Ravi: {oblivious} Well, I'll get you a coffee when we finish here, OK?

Tess: OK. And a cake?

Ravi: Oh go on then. A small one

Tom: Yes, that's right. 'One' refers to the cake. Ravi doesn't repeat the word 'cake' – he uses 'one' instead. Tess said 'cake', so Ravi doesn't need to say it again – they both know what they're talking about. So he can use 'one'. We do this a lot in English. We can also use 'ones' when we're talking about something that's plural. Listen to Jamie and Carolina in the shoe shop. What does 'ones' refer to?

Carolina: {fade in} So which ones do you like best – the grey ones or the black ones?

Jamie: They're both nice.

Carolina: But tell me which ones you like best.

Jamie: OK then, the grey ones.

Carolina: What's wrong with the black ones?

Jamie: Nothing's wrong with the black ones. I said I liked them both.

Tom: Yes, they both use 'ones' to refer to the shoes. 'Shoes' is plural, so they use 'ones', not 'one'. They can use 'ones' because they're standing in the shoe shop looking at the shoes and so they both know what they're talking about. In some languages you can make adjectives plural – you can say 'I like the blacks' or 'I prefer the greys', but you can't do that in English. We say 'I like the black ones' or 'I prefer the grey ones'.

'One' is very common with 'this' or 'that'. We can say 'Do you prefer this one or that one?'. And of course, we use it a lot with 'which'. 'Which one do you like best?' or 'Which ones do you prefer?' or for example, in a car park with a friend, we can ask 'Which one is yours?' – we both know that we're talking about a car. And if you're eating chocolates you can say to a friend 'Would you like one?'

There are lots of words in English that we use to refer to things or people. Words like 'it' or 'her' or 'them' or 'mine' – pronouns. Also words like 'this' or 'that' or 'these' or 'those'. Listen to Tess talking to Esther about knitting. Notice the words that refer to other people or things.

Tess: Did you make that jumper you're wearing?

Esther: Yes, I did.

Tess: It's really nice.

Esther: Thank you. It took me ages.

Tess: I could never make something like that.

It's important that you notice these words when you're listening or reading, and that you know what they refer to – if you don't, then you won't be able to understand *exactly* what people are talking about. A good way to practise this is to take a piece of English, for example, a part of the tapescript of the podcast, and draw a circle around all the words that refer to something else. Then draw a line from the word to the thing that it refers to. So, for example, you draw a circle around the word 'him' and then draw a line to connect 'him' to what it refers to – maybe 'John' or 'Ravi'. I'll put an example on the site for you to see if you don't understand what I mean. But please try it. It really will help you to understand things better.

Now I'd like to talk about something different. Listen to this. What does 'poor' mean?

Tess: So women didn't knit?

Esther: Well poor women did of course.

Tom: Yes, 'poor' means someone who hasn't got very much money. It's the opposite of 'rich'. Now listen to this. What does 'old' mean?

Esther: You can take an old jumper that you don't like any more and make something new. It's a cheap way to get clothes.

Tom: Right again. An old jumper is a jumper that you've had for a long time. It's the opposite of 'new'. But now listen to what Ravi says after he listens to Carolina and Jamie in the shoe shop.

Ravi: Poor old Jamie. I think he was a bit bored.

Tom: It's interesting, isn't it? 'Poor old Jamie'. Ravi doesn't mean that Jamie hasn't got any money. And he doesn't mean that Jamie is old – he's a young man. Ravi uses 'poor' because he feels sorry for Jamie because he was bored in the shoe shop. We use 'poor' in this way a lot – to show sympathy. You can say 'look at that poor dog – it's hungry'. Or 'poor Susan hates her new job'. You can use 'poor' in formal or informal situations. But Ravi says 'Poor old Jamie'. The 'old' makes it more *informal* – you would only say it to friends or people that you know well. If a friend has a problem you can say 'Oh poor you' or 'Oh poor old you' to show that you sympathise – that you feel sorry for them. And sometimes we say 'you poor thing' or 'you

poor old thing' too. See if you notice it in any English films or songs that you listen to. And now for a simple phrase that you can use this week. Listen to Tess at the end of the quiz.

Tess: Neighbour. Niece. Classmate. Father-in-law. Colleague. Boss and cousin. Seven. Well done Mark. And Ravi.

Tom: She says 'Well done Mark' because he got seven words in the quiz. We say 'well done' when someone does something well – when we want to congratulate them. Use it this week when you're speaking English. Say 'well done'

to someone.

OK. I'm going to stop there. I'll talk to you all again next time. Remember you can write to me about any language that *you* noticed in this podcast. The address is `learnenglishpodcastATbritishcouncilDOT org`. In a moment you'll hear the address for the website where you can read everything you've heard in this podcast. You can also find some practice exercises to do online and a support pack that you can print. Right. That's all for this time. Bye for now! See you next time.

www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 2: Episode 2

Support materials

Download the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. You'll find all the details on this page:
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/elementary-podcasts/series-02-episode-02>

While you listen

While you listen, read and answer the questions below. Remember that there may be more than one correct answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Section 1

1. Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick all the phrases you think are true. There may be more than one right answer.

- a) Tess went to a French restaurant on her birthday
- b) Ravi decides to go to the same French restaurant
- c) Ravi had a bad meal in the Italian restaurant
- d) Ravi often goes to Japanese restaurants

Section 2

2. Listen to Liam talking about Einstein. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Liam is going to be a science teacher
- b) Liam thinks that Einstein is a good example for children
- c) Liam says that Einstein worked very hard at school
- d) Liam explains that time isn't the same everywhere in the universe

Section 3

3. Listen to Eva doing the quiz. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Eva lives in Slovakia
- b) Eva gets nine answers right
- c) Eva is still at school

d) Eva says the quiz was easy

Section 4

4. How many people say that they never enjoy shopping? Tick the right number.

- a) one
- b) two
- c) three
- d) four

Section 5

5. Listen to Carolina talking to Emily. Tick all the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Carolina got 55% for her first essay
- b) Carolina thinks that 55% is a very bad mark
- c) Emily agrees with Carolina
- d) Carolina thinks the British system is different from Venezuela

Section 6

6. Listen to Carolina talking to her tutor, Helen Stanford. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Helen Stanford says Carolina's essay was very bad
- b) Carolina is upset after talking to Helen Stanford
- c) Helen Stanford asks Carolina about her life outside the university
- d) Carolina says she's unhappy about living in Britain

Section 7

7. Tick the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) The duck can talk
- b) The barman knows lots of ducks that can talk
- c) The barman thinks the circus might want a talking duck
- d) The duck is a computer programmer

Section 1: "That restaurant you went to – was it any good?"

Exercise 1: "I think it's a bit..."

Look at this mini dialogue.

A: *What about the French bistro?*

B: *Oh, that place. I think it's a bit expensive. Don't you know anywhere a bit cheaper?*

We often do this when people give us suggestions that we don't like very much. We say "Hmm, it's a bit [negative thing we don't like]. Don't you know anywhere [positive thing we want.]"

Match a line from Column A with a line from column B to make "It's a bit..." phrases. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Column A
Oh, that place. I think...
1. ...it's a bit dead...
2. ...it's a bit expensive...
3. ...the food's a bit boring.
4. ...it's a bit old-fashioned.
5. ...it's a bit posh.
6. ...it's a bit like a café.
7. ...the décor's a bit dark.
8. ...it's always so crowded.

Column B
Don't you know anywhere...
a. ...a bit 'different'?
b. ...a bit brighter?
c. ...a bit cheaper?
d. ...a bit classier?
e. ...a bit cooler?
f. ...a bit livelier?
g. ...a bit more informal?
h. ...a bit quieter?

2) "It's okay" – a balanced opinion

Look at what we say when we think a restaurant is OK, but nothing special. We try to give a balanced opinion. We often say one bad thing about the place, but then say a good thing, to show that the place isn't terrible, or fantastic – just OK.

"It's okay. The food's expensive but the service is excellent."

"It's not bad. There's not much atmosphere but the food's interesting."

"It's all right. It's expensive but the desserts are fantastic."

Can you make similar sentences?

decor:	bright and cheerful / dark and depressing
service:	slow / excellent
waiters:	rude / very friendly
food:	boring / interesting / expensive / cheap / delicious / a bit "different"
atmosphere:	a bit dead / lively
the place:	old fashioned / trendy / cool / crowded / quiet / posh / informal

3) Double positive/negative

Look at these examples of what you can say if a restaurant is really bad.

Here, the speaker gives two reasons why it's bad, and then gives an **example** of the second reason.

- *"The food's expensive and the service is terrible! I waited for hours and when the food arrived it was cold!"*
- *"It's always really crowded and it gets incredibly hot. They haven't got any air conditioning!"*

We can use the same structure when we want to say that a restaurant is very good – give two reasons why it's good, and give an example of the second reason.

- *"The decor is really cool and the food's amazing! I had the most delicious chocolate cake I've ever eaten in my life!"*
- *"The waiters are friendly and it's very cheap. We only paid £25 for two people."*

4) Practice dialogue

The conversation		Notes
A	I've got a friend coming to visit and I want to take them out. Do you know any good restaurants?	Context: A explains why he is asking, and then asks for a recommendation
B	What sort of food does your friend like?	B asks a question to limit the number of possibilities. B might say 'Which part of town?', or 'Any particular nationality?'
A	Oh, anything, really.	A doesn't help
B	Well, there's a nice Italian one in the High Street.	B chooses nationality as a way to help
A	Oh, no. I've been there and it's a bit boring. Don't you know any interesting places?	A does a "It's a bit..." (see above)
B	Well, there's the Vietnamese...	B gives another possibility
A	Oh, no. A friend of mine went there and said that the food was a bit greasy and the wine was really expensive. The house wine was twenty-five pounds a bottle!	A gives a double negative: two negatives and an example (see above)
B	Well, what about the Armenian one, then? It's got a lovely atmosphere and the food is interesting. It's a bit different.	B gives another possibility
A	Good idea. I don't think I've eaten Armenian food before. Perhaps I'll take her there.	1) A accepts the recommendation 2) A explains why 3) A says he 'might possibly' go there, but doesn't make a decision.
B	"Her"? Who's "her"?	B moves the conversation on to a subject he thinks is interesting
A	Oh, never mind....	

Practice this dialogue with a friend.

Now write a similar dialogue of your own.

Section 2 – Would like to talk about

In this section, you heard Liam talking about Albert Einstein and his theories of relativity.

Here is a paragraph about Einstein that Liam wrote after the podcast. Read the text and see what information Liam has added or taken out.

"I want to be a physics teacher and Einstein **is my favourite scientist because** he shows children that science isn't boring. **One interesting fact about him** is that he hated school because he thought that they didn't teach him anything. **He made his most important discoveries when** he was young – in his twenties. **He published** his General Theory of relativity in 1915, and **was awarded** the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921. **The most interesting thing for me about** Einstein's theories is that **he proved that** time is relative. **This means that** time goes faster or slower in different places in the universe. And his formula $E=mc^2$ is the **most famous in the world** – even if people don't really understand it. Einstein **showed that science is about** using your imagination and being creative. **That's why I admire him.**"

Do you have a favourite scientist that you would like to tell us about? Write a paragraph about him or her – the phrases in **bold** in Liam's paragraph may help you. Then, if you want, you can send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Section 3 – Quiz

The quiz today was about the verb 'tell' – and the words that go with the verb. For example, we can 'tell a story' but we can't 'tell a conversation'. It's very important that you learn which verbs to use with which phrases.



ask	tell	speak	make	talk	have	say
-----	------	-------	------	------	------	-----

Look at the list of verbs and the diagram. All of the phrases are connected with speaking in some way. Put the verbs in the correct space in the diagram. The first one has been done for you as an example. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Section 4 – Your turn

In 'Your Turn' this time the question was "Shopping: Love it? Hate it?' or 'It depends'?"

What about you? What do you think about shopping? Do you agree with what any of the people said in the podcast? Do you always enjoy shopping, or does it depend on what kind of shopping it is?

We'd like you to write to us and tell us *your* opinion.

You can send it to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org

Here are some ideas to help you:

• verbs that you can use to give your opinion:

I [really] hate...

I can't stand...

I [quite / really] like...

I [quite / really] enjoy...

I [really] love...

...shopping.

NB. Use the 'ing' form after these verbs.

• different types of shopping that you can love or hate

I love / hate shopping...

...in the supermarket

...in the market

...in department stores

...in shopping centres

...in busy / quiet places

...in the sales (*when shops sell things at a cheaper price*)

...online

...for clothes / shoes

...for CDs / computer games / DVDs

...for food / fresh fruit and vegetables / fresh fish

...for things for the house

...for presents for other people

• words you can use to describe shopping for you

Shopping [for clothes] is...

fun / interesting / my favourite kind of shopping / boring / terrible / the worst kind of shopping / OK / necessary /

good *with other people* or *alone*

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1

Look at some parts of Carolina's conversations about the problems with her essay. Put the 10 expressions in the right places. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Can I ask you about something?	Can I come in?
Could I ask you about the essay you sent back to me?	Have you got a minute?
It's a really big help.	Oh, that makes me feel much better!
OK, I will. Thank you.	Thank you very much for your time.
That's really terrible isn't it?	Things are going well.

1	{ <i>knock on the door</i> } Emily: Hello? Carolina: Hi, Emily. _____
2	Emily: Yeah, come in, it's open. Carolina: Hi. _____ Emily: Of course you can. What's up?
3	Carolina: It's this. You know that essay I did? The environment and land resources one? I just got it back. Emily: OK Carolina: Oh Emily. Fifty five percent. _____ I don't know what I should do.
4	Emily: Yeah, that can be scary, can't it? You think all the others are geniuses, and you're the worst in the group! Carolina: So you feel stupid too? _____ Emily: Well, thanks!
5	Helen Stafford: Come in. Ah, Carolina. How are you? Carolina: Fine, thanks. _____ Helen Stafford: Yes, sure. Have a seat. What can I do for you?
6	Helen Stafford: Yes, sure. Have a seat. What can I do for you? Carolina: _____ Helen Stafford: Ah, OK. You got it? Good. Yes, have you got it there?
7	Helen Stafford: But as it is, it's a good start. You need to think about the other things as well – the bibliography mainly – but I think you're on the right lines with this. Carolina: OK. _____

8	Helen Stafford: That's alright. I hope you feel a bit better about it now. Carolina: I do, thank you. _____
9	Helen Stafford: And how are things in general? Are you settling in okay? Carolina: Well, I was a bit upset this week – about the essay and everything, but I have settled in all right. I've made friends. _____
10	Helen Stafford: Just check on the site to see when I'm here if you need to come and have a chat again. Carolina: _____

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 2

Look again at parts of Carolina's conversations. Choose all the phrases that people can say – there is always more than one correct answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Emily: Hello?

Carolina: Hi, Emily. _____

- a) Would I come in?
- b) Could I come in?
- c) Can I come in?
- d) May I come in?

2. Emily: Yeah, come in, it's open.

Carolina: Hi. _____

Emily: Of course you can. What's up?

- a) Can I talk to you about something?
- b) Can I ask you about something?
- c) Can I make a question?
- d) Can I ask your opinion?

3. Carolina: You know that essay I did? The environment and land resources one? I just got it back.

Emily: OK

Carolina: Oh Emily. Fifty-five percent. _____ I don't know what I should do.

- a) I think that's terrible.
- b) Isn't that terrible!
- c) Is terrible!
- d) That's really terrible isn't it?

4. Emily: Yeah, that can be scary, can't it? You think all the others are geniuses, and you're the worst in the group!

Carolina: So you feel stupid too? _____

Emily: Well, thanks!

- a) Oh, now I feel much better!
- b) Oh, that makes me feel much better!
- c) Oh, that's good to know!
- d) Oh, that makes me good!

5. Helen Stafford: Come in. Ah, Carolina. How are you?

Carolina: Fine, thanks. _____

Helen Stafford: Yes, sure. Have a seat. What can I do for you?

- a) Have you got a minute?
- b) Can I ask you about something?
- c) Have you got time for me?
- d) Can I take your time?

6. Helen Stafford: Yes, sure. Have a seat. What can I do for you?

Carolina: _____

Helen Stafford: Ah, OK. You got it? Good. Yes, have you got it there?

- a) Can I ask you about the essay you sent back to me?
- b) I'd like to talk about the essay you sent back to me.
- c) I'm talking about the essay you sent back to me.
- d) Could I ask you about the essay you sent back to me?

7. Helen Stafford: But as it is, it's a good start. You need to think about the other things as well – the bibliography mainly – but I think you're on the right lines with this.

Carolina: OK. _____

- a) Thank you for talking to me.
- b) Thank you for your conversation.
- c) Thank you for your time.
- d) Thank you for the advice.

8. Helen Stafford: That's alright. I hope you feel a bit better about it now.

Carolina: I do, thank you. _____

- a) It's a very good help.
- b) It's very helpful.

- c) It's a really big help.
- d) You've helped me a lot.

9. Helen Stafford: And how are things in general? Are you settling in okay?

Carolina: Well, I was a bit upset this week – about the essay and everything, but I have settled in all right. I've made friends. _____

- a) Things are going well.
- b) Everything's OK.
- c) I'm getting on well.
- d) I'm going on well.

10. Helen Stafford: Just check on the site to see when I'm here if you need to come and have a chat again.

Carolina: _____ Thank you.

- a) OK, I am.
- b) OK, I do.
- c) OK, I'll do that.
- d) OK, I will.

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Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 3

Now complete this conversation. Imagine that you are a student in Britain and you are having some problems with your academic work. Talk to your tutor about the problem.

You: *{knock on the door}* _____?

Tutor: Yes, of course. Come in.

You: _____?

Tutor: I'm not busy at the moment. Sit down. What can I do for you?

You: *{say what you want to talk about}* _____.

Tutor: OK. But what exactly is the problem?

You: *{explain the problem}* _____.

Tutor: Well, I think you need to.....

..... but I think you're doing well, so don't worry.

You: _____.

Tutor: That's OK. I hope you feel a bit better now.

You: _____.

Tutor: How are things in general? Your social life, living in a new country?

You: _____.

Tutor: OK. Well, please come and talk to me again if you need to.

You: _____.

Section 7 - The joke

Exercise 1

Read the sentences below, and put them in the right order to tell the joke. You can either cut them up and arrange them, or write the number in the space on the left. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

	"Did you know there's a circus in town at the moment?"
	A duck goes into a pub and says "I'd like a pint of beer please."
	and after a few weeks they get quite friendly.
	"Why don't you go and see if they can give you a job?"
	And the duck says "Well OK. But are you sure they <i>need</i> a computer programmer?"
	but he gives him the beer.
	He chats to the barman every day,
	"I'm sure they'd be very interested".
	So one day the barman says "You know, you really are a very unusual duck."
	The barman is a bit surprised to see a duck that can talk,
	The duck comes into the pub for a beer the next day, and the next day, and the next day.

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 1

Put the words in the right order to make sentences. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Ravi podcasts to the tell the is jokes in now going

Ravi _____

2. Everybody restaurant very French new is good says the

Everybody _____

3. I to before say James want Emma we and goodbye to leave.

I _____

4. Could to me the station tell the train you way?

Could _____

5. Can be Susan home tell that late I'll you tonight.

Can _____

6. Don't to say 'Happy birthday' today grandmother to forget your.

Don't _____

7. It's to truth the best tell always.

It's _____

8. What teacher us tell the to do did?

What _____

9. The English word this says is that American dictionary.

The _____

10. My sleep story went me always mother told a before I to.

My _____

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 2

Choose the right word in each sentence. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1	Ravi is going to _____ the jokes in the podcasts now.	a) say b) tell
2	Everybody _____ the new French restaurant is very good.	a) says b) tells
3	I want to _____ goodbye to James and Emma before we leave	a) say b) tell
4	Could you _____ me the way to the train station?	a) say b) tell
5	Can you _____ Susan that I'll be late home tonight?	a) say b) tell
6	Don't forget to _____ 'Happy birthday' to your grandmother today	a) say b) tell
7	It's always best to _____ the truth.	a) say b) tell
8	What did the teacher _____ us to do?	a) say b) tell
9	The dictionary _____ that this word is American English.	a) says b) tells
10	My mother always _____ me a story before I went to sleep.	a) said b) told

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 3

Now look at this joke (from Series 1, Podcast 3). Put the correct form of 'say' or 'tell' in each space. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

A man went into a pet shop and [1] _____ "I'd like a parrot that talks". The shop assistant said "I'm sorry to [2] _____ you sir, but *you* have to *teach* your parrot to speak." So the man [3] _____ "OK", bought a parrot and took it home with him. A week later he went back to the pet shop. "My parrot still doesn't [4] _____ anything", he [5] _____. "Oh, really?" [6] _____ the shop assistant. "Well, perhaps he's bored". And he [7] _____ the man to buy a little swimming pool for his parrot. So he bought the swimming pool and went home. The next week the man came back again. "He still isn't [8] _____ anything" he [9] _____. So the shop assistant [10] _____ the man to buy a mirror. "He can look in the mirror and [11] _____ "Hello Beautiful!" to himself". So the man bought the mirror and went away. A week later he came back again and [12] _____ the shop assistant that his parrot was dead. "Oh, dear! I'm very sorry about that, sir – but [13] _____ me, before he died, did he [14] _____ anything?" "Yes he did. But only one word." "Really? What did he [15] _____?" "He [16] _____ "Fooodoooooooood!"

Transcript

Download the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. You'll find all the details on this page: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/elementary-podcasts/series-02-episode-02>

Section 1: "You know that restaurant you went to?"

Tess: Hello! And welcome back to the second series of the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. This is podcast number two of this series and we're your presenters. I'm Tess ...

Ravi: ... and I'm Ravi, hello.

Tess: Right, then. Today we've got .. what have we got Ravi?

Ravi: Hang on a minute, I've remembered what I wanted to ask you. How was your birthday?

Tess: Oh, well, it was great, thanks, Ravi: . We had a nice meal.

Ravi: Good, good. Well, you know that restaurant you went to? The French one?

Tess: Yeah.

Ravi: Was it any good?

Tess: Yeah, it was. Yeah. Really good. Bit expensive, but the food was excellent, you know.

Ravi: You'd recommend it then?

Tess: Are you thinking of going?

Ravi: Yeah, I might. I thought I might take someone.

Tess: Oh yeah? Anyone I know?

Ravi: Hmm? No, I don't think so. When you say 'expensive', was it, like, *really* expensive or just expensive expensive.

Tess: It was quite a lot actually. I think we paid about sixty pounds each – including the wine.

Ravi: Sixty quid! Erm. That is a bit more than I wanted to pay. Hmm.

Tess: Well, it *was* my birthday. I'll tell you what though. There's an Italian restaurant just around the corner – people say that's quite good. Can't remember the name, but...

Ravi: Oh, *that* one. I know it. I don't fancy that, though. I went there once and the pasta was worse than the stuff I cook at home...

Tess: Well, you are a great cook, Ravi ...

Ravi: Well, thanks, Tess. But this was *bad*. The pasta was awful and the meat was really tough. Over-cooked. Tasted like rubber. Horrible. And I didn't feel too good the next day...my stomach – you know...

Tess: Say no more.

Ravi: Any more ideas? I wanted somewhere a bit special this time, a bit different

Tess: Well, there's a new Japanese place round the corner. It looks nice...

Ravi: I'm still a bit of a beginner with Japanese food. I'm never sure what to order – I don't know what it all is. I feel a bit stupid in Japanese restaurants...

Tess: I know what you mean. And you don't want to look stupid in front of... Who did you say you were taking?

Ravi: I didn't.

Tess: Should I just get on with the podcast?

Ravi: Yes.

Tess: OK then, I'll do that shall I? Right. what have we got? There's the quiz,

Ravi: Oh, hang on a moment. I forgot something. You know in the last podcast we told everyone that Gordon's gone – got a new job - and taken his fantastic jokes with him?

Tess: I'm not sure about fantastic.

Ravi: Well, loads of people wrote to say they wanted Gordon back! Imagine! They loved the jokes! Anyway, I'm afraid Gordon's definitely gone, but the good news is ... dada dada da da a - I'm taking over

Tess: Oh no...

Ravi: Yes, as from today, I'll be telling the jokes. And some of them don't have animals in them!

Tess: Great. Something to really look forward to. Anyway, let's get back to what we have on today's show. As I said, we'll have our quiz, ...as usual, we'll hear what people think in 'Your Turn' – what's the question this time?

Ravi: It's about shopping.

Section 2: I'd like to talk about...

Tess: And there'll be Carolina too, of course, we'll see how she's getting on, but, as usual, we'll start with 'I'd like to talk about'. This is the part of our show when someone tells us about something important to them - a hobby, a person, a place, a thing – whatever.

Ravi: Yes, something that you know a bit about and would like to share with all of us. And today we've got Liam: here in the studio – Hi Liam: .

Liam: Hi Ravi, hi Tess.

Tess: Hi Liam

Ravi: Just introduce yourself first, you know, tell us a bit about yourself before we start.

Liam: OK. I'm Irish, I'm from Dublin, I'm twenty-two, and I'm training to be a teacher.

Tess: Dublin's a long way away from London!

Liam: Yes, I'm in London for a while, visiting family. So I thought I'd come into the studio and talk about Albert Einstein.

Ravi: Wow. Albert Einstein. E equals mc squared. Are you a scientist by any chance?

Liam: No, I'm not. I love science though – and that's what I want to do in a way - I'm training to be a physics teacher. That's why I love Einstein – I think he's a brilliant example for kids, he really shows them that science isn't boring. It's about using your imagination. Einstein was a real 'artist' – he was a science superstar.

Everyone has this image of him as an old man with grey hair, but he was young when he made his most important discoveries – he was in his twenties. Not much older than me in fact.

Tess: I heard he was a really bad student at school. Is that true?

Liam: I'm not sure it is. I think he was a clever student – he always got good marks, but he hated school as a teenager. He thought the lessons were boring – he used to skip school and study the things that he wanted to learn about. He thought that he didn't learn anything at school and I think that a lot of kids today will understand how he felt.

Ravi: And are you going to explain relativity and e equals mc squared?

Liam: Ha! How long is the podcast? No, I don't think so.

Ravi: Oh go on!

Liam: Well the most interesting thing for me about Einstein's theories is the stuff about time. Time isn't always the same – it goes faster or slower in different situations – it's *relative*. For example, if you put a clock on a spaceship that's travelling very fast, then the clock goes more slowly than a clock on earth.

Ravi: So, if I travel on a spaceship for thirty years, when I come back Tess: will be an old woman and I'll still be young and gorgeous?

Liam: Well yes.

Tess: He's not sure about the 'gorgeous' part Ravi.

Liam: So time depends on speed. And it also depends on gravity. Time passes more slowly on the planet Jupiter for example, because the gravity there is much stronger than the gravity on Earth.

Tess: Wow! So time is different everywhere in the universe!

Liam: That's right. It's *relative*. It isn't just a crazy theory – space engineers nowadays have to use it when they send ships out into space. They have to use it in their calculations. It's complicated, but I hope I've explained it a bit.

Ravi: You certainly have Liam. I can see you've got a great future as a teacher.

Liam: Well thanks. I hope so.

Tess: Yes, I'd like to learn a bit more about it now. Do you know any good websites with simple explanations Liam? Perhaps we could put a couple of links on the site for people who'd like to read some more?

Liam: I can try and find some for you Tess.

Tess: Great.

Ravi: Yes, great. Thanks a lot Liam, and good luck in your future career.

Liam: Thanks Ravi. Thanks Tess. I've enjoyed being here.

Ravi: OK, let's move on with the podcast.

Tess: Young and gorgeous indeed.

Ravi: And of course listeners, we'd like to hear your thoughts on Einstein and relativity, or any other topic that you'd like to talk about. You can write something or record something and send it to us at learn English podcast at British Council dot org, that's learnenglishpodcast - all one word – at - britishcouncil – all one word DOT org, that's o-r-g. Send it to us and we'll put the most interesting ones on the site.

Section 3 – Quiz

Tess: Right. Now, it's time for the quiz. Hello, Eva.

Eva: {on phone} Eva {Ey-va}

Tess: Sorry – Eva. Sorry.

Eva: That's OK, everyone says it wrong.

Tess: Is it French?

Eva: No, it's from Slovakia. My mum's Slovak.

Tess: Ah, OK. But you're in Scotland now, right?

Eva: That's right. In Coatbridge. Near Glasgow.

Tess: OK. What do you do there?

Eva: I'm doing my A levels.

Tess: Right. You're still at school then. What subjects are you doing? Is it hard work?

Eva: I'm doing English, French and History.

Yeah, it is hard work, yeah.

Tess: But do you enjoy it?

Eva: Yeah, I suppose so. It's OK *{nervous laugh}*

Tess: Good. OK then, are you ready to play? We're going to play '10 things'. It's a new one but I'll tell you what you have to do, OK.

Eva: OK

Tess: Right. I'll give you a word – a verb – and you have to try to think of ten things that go with that word. For example, if I say 'play', you have to say ten things you can play – the piano, golf, a game ... like that. You've got a minute and you have to try to get ten things. You get the idea?

Eva: Yep.

Tess: OK then, let's go. Eva you've got one minute to tell us ten things you can tell

Eva: Tell a story. ... Tell the truth. Tell a lie. ...

Tell the time. ... Tell the difference between two things. ... Tell someone erm ... tell someone a story ... oh no, I've already said that, erm....tell someone..... tell someone off. ... Tell.... tell....tell ..ah tell right from wrong? erm tell apart – like tell two people apart.

Tess: That's eight. Come on, two more.

Eva: Argh! Tell, tell, tell tell someone to do something?

{buzzer sounds}

Tess: Ahhh. Nine. Bad luck Eva. That's a really tricky one. You did really well.

Eva: *{laughing}* Argh. It's really stressful.

Tess: I know! Thank you for playing. You did do really well. Let's check them: Tell a story, tell the truth, tell a lie, tell the time, tell the difference, tell someone off, tell right from wrong, tell apart and tell someone to do something. Nine. Good stuff, Eva. We'll send you something nice.

Eva: Thanks. Bye!

Ravi: Bye! Right. Don't go away anyone. We've got your thoughts on shopping and we've got more from Carolina right after this.

Section 4: Your turn

Tess: Right. Now it's time for Your Turn. This is the part of the podcast when we go out and ask different people what they think about something. We ask a different question in every podcast.

Ravi: Yes. And this time the question is 'Shopping – love it? Hate it?' or 'It depends'?. Let's hear what people said.

Voice 1: I hate shopping. I hate shopping in supermarkets, I hate shopping in the market, and I hate shopping for clothes, I especially hate shopping in the sales. In fact, I would prefer to do all my shopping online.

Voice 2: I love it if I'm in the right mood for shopping, but I can't stand shopping in really busy places and I hate it when the music's on too loud, and I also hate pushy shop assistants.

Voice 3: Well, it depends on the kind of shopping, really, if it's clothes shopping or buying a gift for someone I quite enjoy it. If it's shopping just for daily foodstuffs I do find that a bit boring, in fact lately I've taken to using the Internet and just doing online shopping. I find that much easier.

Voice 4: I love shopping. I love when shopping happens, you know you didn't plan it but then you just see the perfect thing and you just have to buy it. I love it when it just happens. I love shopping and spending money.

Voice 5: Shopping – love it or hate it? I don't understand it. You should only go shopping when you need to go shopping to buy food or clothes, for example, but shopping for pleasure is just beyond my understanding. I can't possibly understand why people could possibly enjoy such an activity.

Tess: What do you think Ravi? We do call you 'the king of shopping'.

Ravi: You know I love shopping Tess. Clothes, CDs, DVDs, buying presents for people, stuff for the house. Everything really.

Tess: Even the supermarket?

Ravi: Ah, well, perhaps not so much. But I don't mind it. What about you?

Tess: I hate supermarkets. No, I'm not a big shopping fan really. And what about our listeners? Why don't you write in and tell us what you think about shopping?

Section 5: Carolina

Ravi: OK then, time to catch up with Carolina: again. Remember that Carolina: is a student from Venezuela who's come to England to study at university. We've been following her on the podcast as she studies – and relaxes – in Newcastle. Last time she was shoe shopping – let's see what she's up to this time.

{knock on a door}

Emily: Hello?

Carolina: Hi, Emily. Can I come in?

Emily: Yeah, come in, it's open.
 Carolina: Hi. Can I ask you about something?
 Emily: Of course you can. What's up? Here, I'll just move this so you can sit down.
 Carolina: It's this. You know that essay I did? The environment and land resources one? I just got it back.
 Emily: OK
 Carolina: Oh Emily. Fifty five percent. That's really terrible isn't it? I don't know what I should do.
 Emily: Whaddya mean?. I mean it's not great but, you know, it's not awful. It's your first essay and it's in your second language. Are there any comments on it?
 Carolina: Yeah, she's written loads. I got the bit about the land use patterns completely wrong. I don't think I really answered the question. Oh, Emily, I feel terrible.
 Emily: h come on, it's not that bad, it's a pass, you know. It's not a disaster.
 Carolina: It is! Fifty five percent! I never got fifty-five percent in Venezuela. I've never had less than eighty percent for anything.
 Emily: Really? Look, I got sixty two for my first essay and I'm quite pleased with that.
 Carolina: Really?
 Emily: Yeah, I mean, it's not brilliant but it's fine. You never get eighty percent or something like that unless you're, like, a total genius or something.
 Carolina: Is that true? I don't know – it's all very different here. I feel a bit confused. At home, we had to learn more things – remember them. Here you have to do lots of research and read things and say what you think in front of lots of other students.
 Emily: Yeah, that can be scary, can't it? And then they all ask questions - with the tutor listening. It makes you feel a bit stupid sometimes, doesn't it? You think all the others are geniuses, and you're the worst in the group!
 Carolina: So you feel stupid too? Oh, that makes me feel much better!
 Emily: ell, thanks! But yes, it's just as difficult, even if English is your first language! Don't forget it's the first year for everybody – and it's really different from school. Listen, who's your tutor? Why don't you have a chat with him?
 Carolina: Her. Stafford. Helen Stafford: .
 Emily: Well let's have a look. I'm already logged in. Stafford with two 'f's? You're allowed to go and see your tutor you know. It tells you

on here what times they'll be around. ... Right, here she is.

{knock on a door}

Helen Stafford: : Come in. Ah, Carolina: . How are you?

Carolina: Fine, thanks. Have you got a minute?

Helen Stafford: Yes, sure. Have a seat. What can I do for you?

Carolina: Could I ask you about the essay you sent back to me?

Helen Stafford: Ah, OK. You got it? Good.

Yes, have you got it there? OK. Right. Let me have a look. Oh, yes. Well, generally I thought this was quite good. There were one or two things ...

Carolina: ...yes, yes it does. I should have said that, I know. Oh dear.

Helen Stafford: Well, with those parts changed it would be a really good essay.

Carolina: Right. Thank you.

Helen Stafford: But as it is, it's a good start.

You need to think about the other things as well – the bibliography mainly – but I think you're on the right lines with this.

Carolina: OK. Thank you very much for your time.

Helen Stafford: That's alright. I hope you feel a bit better about it now.

Carolina: I do, thank you. It's a really big help.

Helen Stafford: And how are things in general? Are you settling in okay?

Carolina: Settling in...?

Helen Stafford: Well, it must be a bit strange: different country, new people, different language, different study system. It must take time to – er – get comfortable with all those changes.

Carolina: Well, I was a bit upset this week – about the essay and everything, but I have 'settled in' all right. I've made friends... things are going well.

Helen Stafford: Good. Well, you know where I am. Just check on the site to see when I'm here if you need to come and have a chat again.

Carolina: OK, I will. Thank you.

Helen Stafford: Bye.

Carolina: Bye.

Ravi: You went to university. I bet you were one of the total genius students getting eighty five percent for everything.

Tess: I wish. God, I hated writing essays. I'm really glad I don't have to do that anymore.

Ravi: Well, if any of our listeners want to write to us, they

Tess: Gah, terrible link Ravi:

Ravi: *{laughs}* You think so? I thought that was pretty good. Anyway, remember you can send things to us here at the podcast.

Tess: Yeah, go on. We'd love to hear from you – you can record yourself and send it to us too. If we like it, we'll put it on the site. Well, I think that's it from us....

Section 6: Joke

Ravi: *{cough}* Haven't you forgotten something? ... Like my joke? I've been practising all day.

Tess: Go on then.

Ravi: A duck goes into a bar....

Tess: You said they weren't about animals.

Ravi: I said some of them weren't about animals. This one's about a duck. So, a duck goes into a pub and says "I'd like a pint of beer please." And the barman is a bit surprised to see a duck that can talk, but he gives him the beer. So the duck comes into the pub for a beer the next day, and the next day, and the next day, and he chats to the barman, and after a few weeks they get quite friendly. So one day the barman says "You know, you really are a very unusual duck. Did you know there's a circus in town at the moment? Why don't you go and see if they can give you a job? I'm sure they'd be very interested". And the duck says "Well OK. But are you sure they need a computer programmer?"

Tess: *{laughing}* Actually, that's quite funny

Ravi: Better than some of Gordon's!

Ravi: Well thank you very much Tess.

Tess: Not at all. Now that really is time for us to say goodbye. Remember, the address for anything that you want to send us is learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. But don't go away because Tom the teacher will be here to talk about learning English and some of the language that you've heard in today's podcast. So I'll say goodbye...

Ravi: Me too. Bye!

Tom the teacher

Tom: Hi, I'm Tom. I'm here at the end of every podcast to talk about some of the language you heard in the programme, and to talk about ways to help you learn English. The first thing I want to look at today is the word 'tell'. A lot of learners want to know the difference between the verbs 'tell' and 'say'. This is quite difficult to explain! 'Say' and 'tell' are almost the same in meaning – they're both connected with speaking. 'Say' can be used in lots of situations, but when we are giving information to someone, we usually use 'tell'. But let's look at 'say' first. Listen to the first line of Ravi's joke about the talking duck.

Ravi: So, a duck goes into a pub and says "I'd like a pint of beer please."

Tom: Listen to another example.

Ravi: And this time the question is 'Shopping – love it? Hate it?' or 'It depends'?. Let's hear what people said.

Tom: Yes, the past form of 'say' is 'said'. 'Say' and 'said' are very common words in English. Listen to Tess at the end of the podcast.

Tess: Now that really is time for us to say goodbye. Remember, the address for anything that you want to send us is learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Tom: Tess said 'It's time for us to say goodbye'. You can say goodbye, say hello, say thank you, say happy birthday. If we want to say who we're speaking to, then we use 'to'. Tess can say 'goodbye' to us, or Ravi can say 'Happy birthday' to Tess. We can't say 'Tess said me goodbye' or 'Ravi said Tess happy birthday', or 'Ravi said her happy birthday'. We can't use 'say' with words like 'us' or 'her', or a name – we can't use 'say' with an object. Now listen to an example of 'tell'. How is it different?

Ravi: Just introduce yourself first, you know, tell us a bit about yourself before we start.

Tom: Ravi said 'tell us a bit about yourself'. He used the object – 'us' after 'tell'. 'Tell us'. Listen

to another example. It's Tess at the beginning of the quiz. What's the object word this time?

Tess: We're going to play '10 things'. It's a new one but I'll tell you what you have to do, OK.

Tom: Yes, that's right. She said 'I'll tell you what you have to do'. This is the big difference between 'say' and 'tell'. We use an object immediately after 'tell' but not after 'say'. One more example. Listen to Ravi.

Ravi: Oh, hang on a moment. I forgot something. You know in the last podcast we told everyone that Gordon's gone – got a new job – and taken his fantastic jokes with him?

Tom: Ravi said 'we told everyone that Gordon's gone'. 'Told' is the past form of 'tell'. 'We told everyone'. 'Everyone' is the object. Ravi can't say 'we said everyone that Gordon's gone'. We just can't use 'say' in that way. Try to notice examples of 'say' and 'tell' in the English that you read or listen to. A good learners' dictionary will help you. Remember that a dictionary isn't only about meanings and definitions. A learners' dictionary will give you examples of the word used in sentences, so you can see exactly how to use the word. Try it when you've finished listening to the podcast. Find 'say' and 'tell' in your dictionary and see what the example sentences are. Make a note of them in your vocabulary book. Add more examples when you notice them. ... A dictionary can help in another way too. Listen to Tess at the end of the quiz. She's repeating Eva's answers for things that you can 'tell'.

Tess: You did do really well. Let's check them: Tell a story, tell the truth, tell a lie, tell the time, tell the difference, tell someone off, tell right from wrong, tell apart and tell someone to do something. Nine. Good stuff, Eva.

Tom: These are all phrases where we use 'tell'. You can tell the children a story or tell your mother a lie. You don't 'say a story' or 'say a lie'. Sometimes it can be difficult to remember if you should use 'say' or 'tell'. So use your dictionary again to help you. Find the word 'story' and look at the example sentences. You will find the verb 'tell' in the examples, so you'll know that 'tell' is the verb to use with 'story'. A

good learners' dictionary really is a very good friend!

Tom: Now for something different - words that British people use for money. You probably have a lot of different words for money in your language too. Listen to Ravi and Tess. They're talking about the restaurant that Tess went to for her birthday. Listen to the word that Ravi uses for 'pounds'

Ravi: When you say 'expensive', was it, like, really expensive or just expensive expensive.

Tess: It was quite a lot actually. I think we paid about sixty pounds each – including the wine.

Ravi: Sixty quid! Erm. That is a bit more than I wanted to pay. Hmm.

Tom: Yes, he said 'quid' – 'sixty quid'. 'Quid' is a very common word for 'pounds' in English. You don't have to say 'quid' – you can say 'pounds', but you need to understand the word if someone says it to you. Let me tell you some more common words for money so that you can understand them when you hear them. British people often say 'a fiver' for five pounds, and 'a tenner' for ten pounds. So you can say 'How much did the coffees cost?' and the person might say 'Only a fiver'. Another common word is 'grand'. 'A grand' is a thousand pounds. So a car can cost 'twelve grand' or a house might cost 'two hundred grand' or someone's salary can be 'twenty grand a year'.

Tom: Now I want to talk about the word 'right'. I noticed it a lot in this podcast. Listen to Carolina and her tutor. What does 'right' mean here?

Helen Stafford: Well, with those parts changed it would be a really good essay.

Carolina: Right. Thank you.

Tom: Yes, Carolina uses 'right' to mean 'OK'. Now listen to Tess and Liam talking about Einstein's theory of relativity. Why does Liam use 'right'?

Tess: Wow! So time is different everywhere in the universe!

Liam: That's right. It's relative. It isn't just a crazy theory – space engineers nowadays have to use it.

Tom: That's right. I say this all the time! We use 'that's right' when we agree with what someone says, when their answer is 'right' not 'wrong'. We can also use 'right' in another way – to ask a question. Listen to Tess and Eva.

Eva: My mum's Slovak.

Tess: Ah, OK. But you're in Scotland now, right?

Eva: That's right. In Coatbridge. Near Glasgow.

Tom: Tess says 'right' to check that what she says about Eva is true. 'You're in Scotland now, right? And Eva says 'That's right' – yes, she is

in Scotland now. Try to use 'right' or 'that's right' – to say OK, or when you agree with someone, or to ask a question. Try to use it this week when you're speaking English.

OK. That's enough from me for today. I'll talk to you all again next time. Remember you can write to me about any language that you noticed in this podcast. The address is `learnenglishpodcastATbritishcouncilDOT org`. In a moment you'll hear the address for the website where you can read everything you've heard in this podcast. You can also find some practice exercises to do online and a support pack that you can print. Right. That's all for this time. Bye for now! See you next time.

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B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 2: Episode 3

While you listen

While you listen, read and answer the questions below. Remember that there may be more than one correct answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Section 1

Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick all the phrases you think are true. There may be more than one right answer.

1.
 - a) Ravi listens to podcasts
 - b) Tess listens to podcasts
 - c) Ravi is on Facebook
 - d) Tess is on Facebook
2.
 - e) Ravi tells Tess about a problem that he has
 - f) Ravi asks Tess what he should do
 - g) Tess gives Ravi some ideas
 - h) Ravi thinks all of Tess's ideas are bad

Section 2

3. What does Sameena say about meditation? Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- i) Sameena sits on a chair to meditate
- j) Sameena repeats a mantra when she meditates
- k) Meditation always has a religious meaning
- l) Meditation helps you to be healthy

Section 3

4. Listen to Davis doing the quiz. How many words does he guess correctly? Tick the correct number.

- a) two b) three c) four d) five

Section 4

5. How many people think that space exploration is always a waste of time and money? Tick the correct number.

- a) one b) two c) three d) four

Section 5

Listen to Carolina meeting Jamie's parents. Tick all the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

6.
 - a) Jamie's father is called Ernie
 - b) Carolina likes dogs
 - c) Carolina likes her bedroom
 - d) Carolina likes Jamie's mother

7.

- a) Jamie's mother is called Mary
- b) Carolina doesn't drink tea
- c) Jamie was born in this house
- d) Jamie still has his old toys in his room

Section 7

8. Listen to the joke. Tick all the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) The man wants to go to Tokyo
- b) The man wants to go to New York
- c) The man doesn't really want to send his luggage to New York
- d) The man lost his luggage the last time he went to Tokyo

Section 1: Advice – "What do you think I should do?"

Ravi asked Tess to help him with a problem. Look at the table below. You can see the structure of Tess and Ravi's conversation. This structure is very common in English when we want to ask for help with a problem (like Ravi) or when we are giving someone some advice (like Tess).

Conversation		Notes
Ravi	Oh, that reminds me – I wanted to ask you about something. <i>{pause}</i> You know I'm on Facebook, right?	First, book some conversation space – make sure the person has time to talk to you. Bring up something you have in common – this is to explain why you think the person can help.
Tess	Right.	Show that you have understood and that you have time to help.
Ravi	Well, yesterday I got a message from someone inviting me to be 'friends' and the thing is, I just don't know who she is. I don't recognise her name at all.	Say what the problem is.
Tess	So, someone wants to be your friend online and you don't know who she is? You're just so popular, Ravi!	Reformulate – describe the problem in different words to show that you understand. Put in a joke?
Ravi	Well she knows me –but I really can't think who she is. I mean, it's not a really big problem but what do you think I should do Tess?	Add more information. Ask for help with problem.
Tess	Well, you could just not reply.	Make a suggestion.
Ravi	But I don't want to be rude to her.	Reject suggestion 1 politely.
Tess	Or you could ask her where you met.	Make suggestion 2.
Ravi	Hmm. That's a bit embarrassing.	Reject suggestion 2 politely.
Tess	Well, why don't you say, yes, you'll be her friend? You don't have to write to her, do you?	Make suggestion 3.
Ravi	That's true. I'll just say 'yes, let's be friends' and then maybe I'll remember who she is.	Accept suggestion 3.
Tess	She's probably a friend of a friend or something. Do you often forget people's names?	Say something like "I'm sure it will all be okay" to make the other person feel better. Then move the conversation on to the next topic...

Section 1 – Advice – Exercise 1

Here are three conversations with people asking other people for advice and ideas. Each conversation has 13 "turns". The problem is that Turns numbered 4 – 12 have been confused. Can you follow the three different conversations to the end?

With highlighter pens, colour the turns in three different colours. The first turn – No. 4 – has been done for you.

Alternatively, you can cut the turn out with a pair of scissors and arrange them on the table.

Conversation A	Conversation B	Conversation C
¹ Bob! Mr Hi-Tech! Thank goodness. Got a sec?	¹ Hi John. Are you in a mad rush? Off for lunch?	¹ Janet – just the person. Got a mo?
² Morning, Mr Lo-tech! I've always got time for you.	² Erm, no, not yet.	² Well, I'm quite busy, actually...
³ I wanted to ask you something. You've got a laptop, haven't you?	³ Great, because I wondered if you could help me. You're a bit of a foodie, aren't you?	³ I just need a couple of seconds. You know Ginny from Human Resources, don't you?
⁴ Yes – I used to work with her when she was in Accounts.	⁴ Well, some people say so	⁴ Yes. My fabulous portable Toshiba.
⁵ Well, I've got an Australian cousin visiting, and I promised to take her out for a meal. Got any ideas where I should go?	⁵ Well, I've just bought a laptop, but it doesn't seem to get a wireless signal.	⁵ Well, she's leaving, and we don't know what to get her. Any ideas?
⁶ Oh, is she? I didn't know. When did that happen?	⁶ So, what? Like you can't get the internet, for example?	⁶ When for. Tonight? Everywhere's busy on Fridays
⁷ It's for Monday, actually, so no problems	⁷ Oh, it's all very last minute. Man trouble, I think.	⁷ Exactly. No surfing for me.
⁸ Mmm. Are you sure your new one has wireless access?	⁸ Well, you could always ask what sort of food she likes	⁸ Oh. Poor Ginny. Well, it was a long time ago. Erm, how about a plant for the house. One of those tall ones?

⁹ Yes, I did, but she keeps saying 'Asian fusion'	⁹ Ahh. Yes. But she's going back to the States so it has to be something she can take with her.	⁹ Yes, there's a little blue light at the front.
¹⁰ Mmm. How far is your new one from your router? You know, the thing with the aerial on top	¹⁰ Well, why don't you get her a DVD? I know she loves British comedy series	¹⁰ Mmm. Well, you could try that new Thai restaurant – it does some Chinese dishes too
¹¹ Oh, yes. But we looked in there and she said it looked a bit boring. Do you know anywhere a bit "cooler"?	¹¹ Oh, it's in the back room.	¹¹ Okay. Not a bad idea. Anything else you can think of?
¹² Ah. It might be too far away. Try walking towards the router with your laptop, and see what happens.	¹² Oh! Knitting needles. She loves knitting. You could buy her some of those bamboo ones.	¹² Well, you could always take her to Bob's. That's an Australian restaurant that does good food and it's pretty trendy, too. It's a bit pricey, though...
¹³ Good thinking. I'll try that. Thanks	¹³ Never mind. It'll be worth it. Thanks a lot – I might give that a go. Where is it exactly...?	¹³ Brilliant. Thanks. I knew you were the right person to ask. Thanks ever so.
Conversation A	Conversation B	Conversation C

Section 1 – Advice – Exercise 2

Exercise 2

Now you can practice the conversations with a friend. You can use the structure in the table of Tess and Ravi's conversation to help you.

Here are some ideas for problems:

- you want to improve your English pronunciation
- you want to take someone out for a romantic dinner, but you haven't got very much money
- you want to go somewhere different for your holiday next year
- your cat has disappeared
- you wrote a rude email about your boss – and sent it to him/her by mistake
- anything else that you can think of!

Section 2 – Would like to talk about

In this section, you heard Sameena talking about meditation. Do you do an activity that you would like to tell us about? Do you meditate or do something else that helps you to relax when you're stressed? Write a paragraph about what you do. Then, if you want, you can send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Here are some phrases that might help you:

you can...	it's good for...	I use....
you need to...	it can help...	I always...
you must...	it makes you.....	I like it because...
you don't have to...	I started doing it /because/when/ ...years ago/in 1978 I do it /every day/every week/ once a week/twice a day...	
you should...		
it's a good idea to...		

Make some notes below.

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Section 3 – Quiz

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 1

The quiz in this episode was about things and places in an airport. Match the words to the definitions.

1	The long, straight road that planes take off from. They land on it as well.	baggage reclaim.
2	The place you go to with all the other passengers <i>just</i> before you get on the plane.	check-in
3	The first place you go to when you get to the airport. You go there to put your bags in and they check your passport and ticket and give you a boarding pass.	customs
4	The place where you wait to be called. You can have something to eat or drink, or look at the shops.	departure gate
5	The place where you go to pick up your suitcase when you get off the plane. It goes round and round.	departure lounge
6	You can buy perfume, cigarettes and alcohol cheaply here.	duty free shops
7	You have to show your passport to someone here.	passport control
8	You go through here when you leave the airport. Someone might ask you to open your suitcase.	runway

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 2

Here are some more words connected with airports and flying. Use them to fill the spaces in the sentences.

aisle seat	boarding card	cabin crew	departures board	emergency exits
hand luggage	hire a car	pilot	seatbelt	trolley

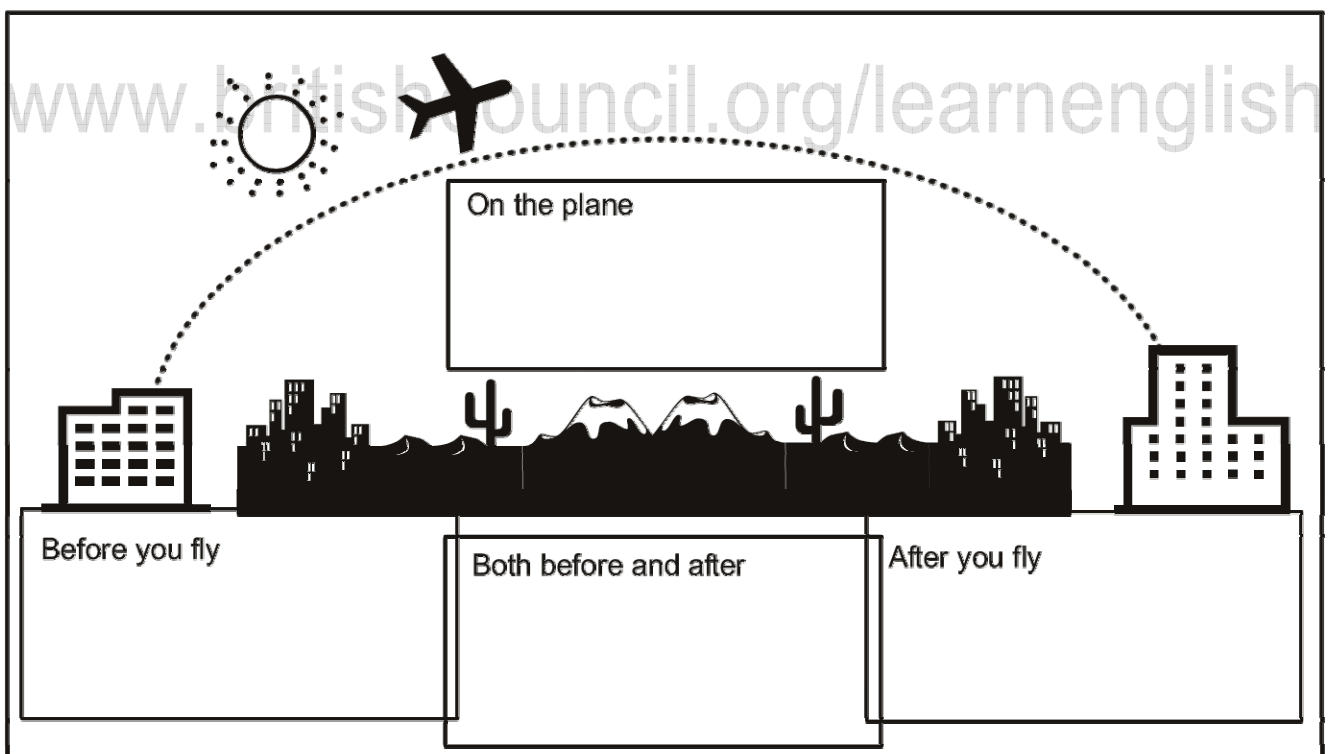
- You need to look at the _____ to see what time your flight is leaving, and which gate to go to.
- You can use a _____ if your luggage is very heavy and you don't want to carry it.
- You have to show your _____ before you get on the plane
- You have to fasten your _____ when you take-off and when you land
- You can choose a window seat or an _____.
- The plane has some _____ so that you can get out safely if there's an accident.

7. The men and women who look after the passengers on the plane are called _____.
8. The man or woman who flies the plane is the _____.
9. You can take _____ on to the plane with you, but it can't be too big.
10. When you arrive you can get a train, a bus, or a taxi.
Or maybe you'd prefer to _____.

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 3

Here are more words and phrases about airports and flying. Some are about things before you fly, or after you arrive, or both. Others refer to while you are on the plane. Add the words to the correct place on the diagram.

duty free shops	baggage reclaim	boarding card	cabin crew	check-in	customs
departures board	departure lounge	departure gate	pilot	hire a car	hand luggage
emergency exits	passport control	aisle seat	runway	seatbelt	trolley



Section 4 – Your turn

In 'Your Turn' this time the question was 'Do you think that space exploration is a waste of time and money?'

What about you? What do you think about space exploration? Do you agree with what any of the people said in the podcast? We'd like you to write to us and tell us *your* opinion. You can send it to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org

Here are some ideas to help you:

Some words connected with space exploration:

- the universe
- the solar system
- Mars
- the moon
- stars
- black holes
- new planets
- alien life forms
- new sources of water
- new sources of energy
- light years
- scientific research
- technology
- space travel
- the speed of light

Some useful verbs:

- to discover
- to explore
- to find
- to look for
- to develop
- to change
- to spend money
- to solve problems
- to benefit humanity

Some problems in our world today:

- poverty
- global warming
- the environment
- war
- disease
- hunger
- over-population
- pollution
- nuclear weapons

Section 5 – Carolina

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1

Look at some parts of Carolina's conversations with Jamie and his parents. Put the expressions in the right places.

How long have you lived here?	It's nice to meet you too	Yes thank you	How nice
if it isn't too much trouble	You've got a lovely house	That's very kind of you	I like it

1. Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.

Carolina: Hello. _____

2. Mary: Did you have a good journey?

Carolina: _____. The train was a bit late, but it was fine. We got a bus from the station. It was easy.

3. Mary: And you're in this room Carolina.

Carolina: _____. I love the colour. And what pretty curtains too.

4. Mary: Now, I've put some towels out for you – here they are on the bed. And we turned the radiator on in here this morning so it should be nice and warm for you.

Carolina: Oh thank you. _____. I'm sure I'll be very comfortable. Thank you very much for inviting me.

5. Carolina: No, no, it's OK Jamie. I can drink the tea with milk.

Doug: No, let's get you another.

Carolina: Well OK, _____. Thank you.

6. Doug: So Carolina. What do you think of this country of ours? A bit cold for you is it?

Carolina: _____. It's very different from Venezuela, but I like it here. And the people are very friendly.

7. Carolina: _____.

Mary: Well thank you. It's nothing grand but we like it.

8. Carolina: _____

Mary: Since we got married, that'll be what, twenty-five years nearly is it Doug?

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 2

Look again at parts of Carolina's conversations. Choose all the phrases that people can say – there is always more than one correct answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.

Carolina: Hello. _____

- a) Pleased to meet you
- b) It's nice to meet you too.
- c) Me too
- d) And you

2. Mary: Did you have a good journey?

Carolina: _____. The train was a bit late, but it was fine. We got a bus from the station. It was easy.

- a) Yes thank you
- b) Yes please
- c) Yes we did
- d) It was OK

3. Mary: And you're in this room Carolina.

Carolina: _____. I love the colour. And what pretty curtains too.

- a) It's lovely
- b) What a nice room
- c) Very well
- d) How nice

4. Mary: Now, I've put some towels out for you – here they are on the bed. And we turned the radiator on in here this morning so it should be nice and warm for you.

Carolina: Oh thank you. _____. I'm sure I'll be very comfortable.
Thank you very much for inviting me.

- a) That's very kind of you
- b) You're very kind
- c) That's very nice of you
- d) I think you're very nice

5. Carolina: No, no, it's OK Jamie. I can drink the tea with milk.

Doug: No, let's get you another.

Carolina: Well OK, _____. Thank you.

- a) if you're sure
- b) if you don't mind
- c) if it isn't too much trouble
- d) if that's good

6. Doug: So Carolina. What do you think of this country of ours? A bit cold for you is it?

Carolina: _____. It's very different from Venezuela, but I like it here. And the people are very friendly.

- a) It's very nice
- b) I like it
- c) It's very well
- d) I'm enjoying it

7. Carolina: _____.

Mary: Well thank you. It's nothing grand but we like it.

- a) The house is very good
- b) Your house is very nice
- c) I like your house very much
- d) You've got a lovely house

8. Carolina: _____

Mary: Since we got married, that'll be what, twenty-five years nearly is it Doug?

- a) Have you lived here a long time?
- b) How long have you lived here?
- c) Since when have you lived here?
- d) Have you lived here long?

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 3

Now complete this conversation. Imagine that you are visiting a friend's parents, or going to any British person's home for the first time.

Hello. It's lovely to meet you!

You: _____

Did you have a good journey?

You: _____

This is my husband, Don.

You: _____

And this is Rex, our dog. Do you like dogs?

You: _____

Let me take your bag upstairs.

You: _____

Here's your room. I hope you like it.

You: _____

And here are some towels for you.

You: _____

Would you like a cup of tea? With milk and sugar?

You: _____

And how are you enjoying Britain? What do you think of it so far?

You: _____

You: [make a nice comment about the house] _____

Oh thank you. Yes, we like it very much.

You: [ask a question about the house] _____

Now you can practice the dialogue with a friend.

Section 6 – The joke

Exercise 1

Read the sentences below, and put them in the right order to tell the joke. You can either cut them up and arrange them, or write the number in the space on the left. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

	"And I'd like you to send my luggage to New York".
	"I'm very sorry sir but we can't do that – it's impossible."
	"That's exactly what you did last time".
	"Yes, that's right" says the man.
	A man goes up to the ticket desk at the airport.
	and the man says "Good morning. I'd like a ticket to Tokyo, please."
	The man says "Well, I don't understand why it's so difficult."
	The ticket clerk says "Good morning, sir. Can I help you?"
	Well, the ticket clerk looks surprised and says "You want us to put you on a plane to Tokyo and send your luggage on a plane to New York?".

Section 7 – Tom the Teacher

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 1

Choose the best word to fill the space – 'very' or 'too'. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. I like John _____ much. He's a really good friend.

- a) very b) too

2. Tess sometimes thinks she spends _____ much time on the computer.

- a) very b) too

3. Now that we've got two children, our house is _____ small. We need another bedroom.

- a) very b) too

4. We went to Goa for our holidays. It really is _____ beautiful.

- a) very b) too

5. I can't eat this soup. It's got _____ much salt in it. It's horrible.

- a) very b) too

6. These shoes are _____ big for me. Have you got them in a smaller size?

- a) very b) too

7. The test was _____ difficult, but I think I did quite well.

- a) very b) too

8. Oh dear, I think I ate _____ many chocolates. I feel sick now.

- a) very b) too

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 2

Now choose the best words to fill these spaces. Use 'too', 'too much' or 'too many'. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. It's _____ far to walk. We'll have to get a taxi.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

2. Don't work _____ hard – you'll make yourself ill!

- a) too b) too much c) too many

3. I didn't enjoy the party very much – there were _____ people there.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

4. My teacher said there are _____ grammar mistakes in my writing.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

5. He's only fourteen – he's _____ young to drink alcohol.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

6. My brother spends _____ money on CDs. He's got thousands.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

7. Let's stay home and watch a DVD. It's _____ cold to go for a walk.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

8. You shouldn't eat _____ sugar. It's bad for you.

- a) too b) too much c) too many

Transcript

Section 1: "Sometimes I think I spend too much time on the computer."

Tess: Hello. Welcome to the second series of the Learn English Elementary podcast. This is number three. I'm Tess.

Ravi: And I'm Ravi. It's a bright sunny morning here in London but the great thing about a podcast is that you can listen whenever you want, so, good morning! Good afternoon! Good evening!

Tess: That's true. Why not write and tell us *when* and *where* you listen to our podcasts? We'll give you the email address a little later. Do you listen at your computer or do you download us and listen on the bus, in the car, at the gym? Let us know. Do you listen to any podcasts Ravi?

Ravi: I do, actually, yeah. I listen to a couple of things. There's a football podcast I really like and there's quite a good comedy one that I listen to as well. I listen to them when I go out running.

Tess: *You* go out running?

Ravi: Well, I listened to one *once* when I was running. I usually listen at home. How about you?

Tess: No, not really. I'm too busy with my social networking site to have time for podcasts. Honestly, sometimes I think I spend too much time on the computer.

Ravi: I know what you mean. It's easy to spend hours and hours on the internet just looking at different things. Surfing the net. Oh, that reminds me – I wanted to ask you about something. You know I'm on Facebook, right?

Tess: Right.

Ravi: Well, I know you're not on Facebook but you're on a few other networking sites - you know how it works, don't you? People send you invitations to be their 'friend'

Tess: Yeah, OK. I know what you mean.

Ravi: Well, yesterday I got a message from someone inviting me to be 'friends' and the thing is, I just don't know who she is. I don't recognise her name at all.

Tess: So, someone wants to be your friend online and you don't know who she is? You're just so popular Ravi.

Ravi: Well she knows me – she wrote something about Manchester but I really can't think who she is. I mean, it's not a really big problem but what do you think I should do Tess?

Tess: Well, you could just not reply.

Ravi: But I don't want to be rude to her.

Tess: Or you could ask her where you met.

Ravi: Hmm. That's a bit embarrassing.

Tess: Well, why don't you say, yes, you'll be her friend? You don't have to write to her, do you?

Ravi: That's true. I'll just say 'yes, let's be friends' and then maybe I'll remember who she is.

Tess: She's probably a friend of a friend or something. Do you often forget people's names, then, erm what's your name again?

Ravi: Very good, Tess. No I'm usually quite good with names. Like today I can tell you we've got Sameena on I'd Like to talk about, we've got Davis doing the quiz and we've got Carolina and Jamie later. And Tom the teacher of course.

Tess: Well done. Shall we get on with it, then?

Section 2: I'd like to talk about...

Ravi: OK then. As usual, listeners, we'll start with I'd Like to Talk About. This is the part of our podcast when we ask someone to tell us about something that's important to them. It could be a person, a hobby – anything. And today we've got Sameena in the studio. And she's going to talk about meditation. Hi Sameena.

Sameena: Hi

Tess: Hi Sameena. Before you start, why don't you tell us a bit about yourself.

Sameena: Well, my name's Sameena – as you know. Um, I'm twenty, and I'm a student at the London School of Economics.

Ravi: Are you from London?

Sameena: No, Leeds. I go back there in the holidays.

Ravi: Great place, Leeds. OK. So why did you decide to talk about meditation Sameena?

Sameena: Well I started doing it about three years ago. I was very stressed with exams and I was working too hard. So a friend told me about meditation – he taught me how to do it actually, in the beginning – and it worked. It made me a lot calmer and less stressed out. So I got really interested in it and started reading about it, and, well, I just think everyone should try it!

Tess: And how do you do it? Give us an idea of what you do. I always think of old men with long, white beards when I think of meditation.

Sameena: Well, it's very simple really. I sit still, somewhere quiet. You can sit in any position, on the floor, or on a hard chair, but you need to keep your back straight and you must be comfortable. I sit on a chair, close my eyes, and then I relax and try to be conscious of *now*, of the present moment. And my mind becomes calm. That's it really.

Tess: And you stop thinking?

Sameena: No, no. A lot of people think that, but it isn't true. It's more about watching your thoughts, just sitting and being conscious of what's going through your mind. You let the thoughts come and go, but you don't *follow* them, you just watch them so your mind stays calm and peaceful.

Tess: But how do you do that – keep your mind calm and peaceful?

Sameena: Well, I use a mantra – that helps me.

Tess: A mantra?

Sameena: Yes, it just means a phrase that you concentrate on – you repeat it over and over again to yourself. But you don't have to use a mantra - there are lots of different ways of doing it. You can concentrate on your breathing – count your breaths for example, or you can try to imagine the energy moving around in your body, you know, try to see it.

Ravi: It's getting very popular nowadays isn't it? Oprah Winfrey was talking about meditation on TV the other day.

Sameena: Yes, it's getting more popular in the west, that's true. But it started as a Hindu tradition more than five thousand years ago – it's really old. And some form of meditation is involved in nearly all religions.

Tess: So is it always a religious thing?

Sameena: No, it doesn't have to have any religious meaning. A lot of people meditate just because it's good for the mind and good for the body. It's a really healthy thing to do.

Tess: I can see why it can be good for the mind, but how does it help the body?

Sameena: Meditation can help your blood pressure, your heart, your breathing - all sorts of things. Scientists have done tests – it's all been proved. So, as I said at the beginning, I think everyone should try it!

Tess: Well thanks for that Sameena. That was really interesting.

Sameena: Not at all. I enjoyed talking about it. Bye.

Tess: Bye Sameena.

Ravi: Bye Sameena, and thanks again.

Tess: So, are you going to give it a try Ravi? Might help you deal with some of that stress?

Ravi: It's not a bad idea you know. My dad meditates, well he used to anyway – I remember seeing him when I was a kid. I don't know if he still does though. I'll have to ask him. I might ask him to give me some lessons next time I see him! That'll be a big surprise for him.

Tess: Well yes. A calm, peaceful Ravi would be

a big surprise for all of us.

Ravi: Ommmmm

Tess: OK. What about you listeners? Do any of you meditate? Or what would you like to tell us about? Write – or record – what you think and send it to us at learn English podcast at British Council dot org, that's learnenglishpodcast - all one word – at - britishcouncil – all one word DOT org, that's o-r-g. If we like it, we'll stick it on the website.

Ravi: We should put some stuff up about mediation, too. Will *you* do that?

Tess: Yeah, OK. Remind me to do that later.

Section 3 – Quiz

Tess: Right, then. What's next? The quiz.

Ravi: Yep. And today we've got Davis on the line. Hello, Davis.

Davis: Hi Ravi.

Tess: Hiya

Davis: Hi Tess.

Ravi: Tell us a bit about yourself Davis. Where are you calling from?

Davis: I'm in London.

Ravi: Are you from London?

Davis: Yes, that's right.

Tess: Like me. Which part of London?

Davis: Tottenham

Tess: Ah, OK. I'm from south London. Wimbledon.

Ravi: Do you support Tottenham then, Davis? Which football team do you support?

Davis: Nah, man, I support Arsenal.

Ravi: Oh dear. Well, I'll forgive you. What do you do Davis?

Davis: I work in a market. Selling kitchen things.

Ravi: No market today then?

Davis: No, not today.

Ravi: Right then. You know how to play Hot Seat, don't you?

Davis: Yeah.

Ravi: Tess has got the cards with the words on. She'll give them to me and I'll explain them to you and we'll see how many we can get in a minute, OK?

Davis: OK

Ravi: But I don't know what the topic is. Tess?

Tess: Right, I've got the cards here. I'll give them to Ravi and he has to explain the words *without* using the words on the card. Are you both ready?

Ravi: Ready

Davis: OK

Tess: OK then today's topic is Places in an airport. Different things and places in an airport. Here are the cards Ravi. You've got one minute starting fromNOW

Ravi: Agh! It's the long road that planes take off from. The really long straight road. They land on it as well.

Davis: Runway?

Ravi: Yes. Oh no. Erm. The place you go to *just* before you get on the plane ... erm ...

Davis: Departure lounge

Ravi: No. "Could passengers travelling to Paris on Flight three seven two please go to *hnn* twenty one"

Davis: Gate!

Ravi: Yes. The first place you go to when you get to the airport.

Davis: The shops?

Ravi: No. You go there to put your bags in and they check your passport and ticket...

Davis: Passport control?

Ravi: No, before that. Erm "Did you pack this bag yourself, sir?"

Davis: Check-in!

Ravi: Yes. Now what you said before. The place

where you wait to get on the plane but before you go to the gate.

Davis: Departure lounge

Ravi: Yes. It's a place. Where you go to pick up your suitcase when you get off the plane.

Davis: Oh, the thing that goes round.

Ravi: Yeah, that, but what's the room called?

{buzzer sounds}

Davis: I don't know it.

Ravi: It was *baggage reclaim*. Oh dear, we haven't done very well there, have we? Sorry Davis. How many was that?

Tess: Runway ... gate ... check-in ... departure lounge. Four.

Ravi: Eek. Sorry Davis. That was tough, wasn't it?

Davis: You just can't think when the clock's ticking.

Ravi: I know. Listen, thanks for playing – we'll find some things to send you. Enjoy the rest of your day.

Davis: And you mate.

Tess: Bye Davis. And well done Ravi. Right. More to come. We'll hear what some of you think about space exploration and we'll catch up with Carolina after *this*.

Section 4: Your turn

Ravi: Right. Your Turn. This is the part of the podcast when we go out and ask different people what they think about something. Every podcast has a different question and this time it's about space exploration – sending rockets and people into space. So, the big question is 'Do you think that space exploration is a waste of time and money?' Or is it a useful thing to do? Let's hear what people think.

Voice 1: Er ... yeah, it's a waste of time and money. There's nothing out there ... er ... and

that moon landing in the 60s, that was done in a studio in Hollywood.

Voice 2: I think that space exploration is a waste of money when you think about ... um ... poor people, climate change and disease.

Voice 3: Ah ... sometimes I think it's a waste of money when, like, the big countries - America or Russia - they just compete for dominance of space, but when it's used for scientific research that can improve ... um ... the equality of life on Earth, then I think it's not money wasted.

Voice 4: No, I don't think space exploration is a w... um ... we'd need to know what's out there – we have to advance ... there is obviously the argument though that mon... that money could be spent on cleaning up our own environment, and our own world, um ... but as I say we need to look forward, maybe our world won't be here forever and we should be looking towards other places.

Voice 5: I don't think space exploration is a waste of time and money ... um ... possibly in the future we might need space exploration and the discoveries they've made more now than we ever realised ... new sources of energy or ... we don't know where mankind is going to be in the future. I think space exploration is very important.

Ravi: Do you know, when I was a kid, I wanted to be an astronaut. I'd love to explore space.

Tess: Did you? I wanted to be a train driver.

Ravi: Well, maybe when you're older.

Tess: Yes. Maybe. And we'd like to know what you, the listeners think too. Send us your opinions.

Section 5: Carolina

Tess: Time now to see what's happening with Carolina. You remember that Carolina is a student from Venezuela who's studying in Newcastle in the north of England.

Ravi: It's not just study though – we've heard about Carolina going shopping, cooking and enjoying university life with her new boyfriend, Jamie. Let's find out what she's doing this time...

Outside the house

Jamie: Well here we are then – My home. The family mansion.

Carolina: Oh, is this the house? I'm a bit nervous Jamie.

Jamie: Don't be silly.

{doorbell – door opens}

Mary: Hellooo! *{hugs and kisses Jamie}*

Jamie: This is Carolina, mum ...

Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.

Carolina: Hello. Um... it's nice to meet you too.

Mary: Did you have a good journey?

Carolina: Oh yes, thank you. The train was a bit late, but it was fine. We got a bus from the station. It was easy.

Mary: Doug! They're here! Come on in before we die of cold. Doug! They're here!

{dog barking}

Jamie: Hello Ernie! Hello, who's a good boy then?

Doug: Hello, hello, hello. You're here then. All right Jamie?

Jamie: Dad.

Doug: And this must be Carolina.

Carolina: Yes, hello, pleased to oh,

Mary: Get down Ernie! Ernie! I hope you like dogs Carolina.

Carolina: Well, I, um I don't know really...

Mary: He won't hurt you. He just wants to give

you a kiss. Get down Ernie! Doug, put him in the kitchen.

Doug: Righty ho. Come on Ernie.

Mary: Now let me take your bags upstairs.

Carolina: Oh no, no. I can take mine. It isn't heavy.

Jamie: I'll take them. Go on mum. You lead the way. Carolina's in the spare room I suppose?

...

Mary: And you're in this room Carolina.

Carolina: How nice. I love the colour. And what pretty curtains too.

Mary: I'm glad you like it. We don't use this room very often.

Carolina: I think it's lovely.

Mary: Now, I've put some towels out for you – here they are on the bed. And we turned the radiator on in here this morning so it should be nice and warm for you.

Carolina: Oh thank you. That's very kind of you. I'm sure I'll be very comfortable. Thank you very much for inviting me.

Mary: Not at all. It's lovely to have you here. Now you unpack your bag and I'll go down and put the kettle on for a nice cup of tea. The bathroom's next door if you want to wash your hands...

...

{knock at door}

Jamie: Can I come in?

Carolina: Yes

Jamie: OK?

Carolina: Oh yes, I'm OK. Your mother's really nice.

Jamie: Ready to go downstairs?

Carolina: Yes.

Jamie: Come on then. Mum's making a cup of tea. My family drinks tea all the time.

Carolina: OK. So ... let's go then.

...

Mary: Here you are Carolina. A nice cup of tea.

Carolina: Thank you Mrs Lawrence.

Mary: Oh no. Call me Mary. Mary and Doug.
We're not formal in this house are we Jamie?

Jamie: Mum, Carolina drinks tea *without* milk.

Carolina: No, no, it's OK Jamie. I can drink it with milk.

Doug: No, let's get you another.

Carolina: Well OK, if it isn't too much trouble.
Thank you.

Mary: Don't be silly. It's no trouble at all. I'll just go and get another cup.

Carolina: Aargh!

Doug: Get down Ernie! You let the dog in Mary!
Ernie! Down! Leave her alone! He's just being friendly.

Jamie: I'll put him back in the kitchen.

Carolina: It's OK. I don't mind.

Jamie: Come on Ernie. Kitchen.

Doug: So Carolina. What do you think of this country of ours? A bit cold for you is it?

Carolina: I like it. It's very different from Venezuela, but I like it here. And the people are very friendly.

Doug: Well that's good.

Mary: Here you are Carolina.

Carolina: Thank you very much. ... You've got a lovely house.

Mary: Well thank you. It's nothing grand but we like it.

Carolina: How long have you lived here?

Mary: Since we got married, that'll be what, twenty-five years nearly is it Doug?

Doug: Aye. Twenty-five years in April.

Carolina: So Jamie was born here?

Mary: That's right. He's lived here all his life, haven't you love?

Jamie: Yep.

Mary: He's still got some of his old toys in his

room, hasn't he Doug?

Carolina: Really?

Doug: Oh aye. Won't let us throw them out. All his old toy cars. And Mr Potter the panda's still there.

Mary: That's right. Mr Potter the panda. But Jamie couldn't say Mr Potter – he could only say Po Po – so it was Po Po panda. Do you remember Jamie?

Carolina: Mr Po Po panda?

Jamie: Oh god! Stop it all of you. Let's change the subject. How's work going dad? Been busy recently?

...

Ravi: Ah. What a nightmare. Poor Jamie. But, you know, it must be getting serious now.
Carolina met Jamie's parents.

Tess: Yes. Isn't it nice? Ahhhh.

Section 6: The Joke

Tess: Well, I think that's about all we've got time for on this podcast ..

Ravi: No, hang on a minute. I've got another joke for you.

Tess: I hoped you'd forget.

Ravi: I think you'll like this one, Tess.

Tess: OK. Let's hear it.

Ravi: OK. A man

Tess: A man? Oh? Not a dog? A duck? A frog?

Ravi: Definitely a man – I told you – not all of my jokes are animal jokes. Right. A man goes up to the ticket desk at the airport. The ticket clerk says 'Good morning, sir. Can I help you?' and the man says 'Good morning. I'd like a ticket to Tokyo, please. And I'd like you to send my luggage to New York'. Well, the ticket clerk looks surprised and says "You want us to put you on a plane to Tokyo and send your luggage on a plane to New York?". "Yes, that's right" says the man. "I'm very sorry sir but we can't do

that – it's impossible." The man says "Well, I don't understand why it's so difficult. That's exactly what you did last time".

Tess: I lost my bag at an airport once you know.

Ravi: You'll have to save that story for another time Tess. That's all we've got time for today. Remember, the address for anything that you want to send us is learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. But don't go away, listeners. Tom the teacher will be here in a moment to talk about learning English and some of the language you heard on the podcast – {pause} – and we'll be back next time. Bye!

Tess: Bye!

Tom the teacher

Tom: Hi, I'm Tom. I'm here at the end of every podcast to talk about some of the language you heard in the programme, and to talk about ways to help you learn English. Today I want to talk about the word 'too'. Listen to Carolina meeting Jamie's mother, Mary. See how Carolina uses 'too'.

Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.

Carolina: Hello. Um... it's nice to meet you too.

Tom: We can use 'too' to mean 'as well'. I'm sure you know this already. If someone says "I really like chocolate", you can say "Me too!" – you have the same opinion. This use of 'too' is easy. But some learners have problems with a different way to use 'too'. Listen to Tess talking about why she doesn't listen to podcasts. How does she use 'too'?

Tess: No, not really. I'm too busy with my social networking site to have time for podcasts. Honestly, sometimes I think I spend too much

time on the computer.

Tom: She says "I'm *too busy* to have time for podcasts" and then she says "I think I spend *too much time* on the computer". 'Too' here means more than you want – more than is good. If you say that you spend *too much* time on the computer, you mean that you think it's a bad thing. You think that you should spend *less* time on the computer. Listen to another example. Sameena is talking about why she started doing meditation. Listen for 'too'.

Sameena: Well I started doing it about three years ago. I was very stressed with exams and I was working too hard. So a friend told me about meditation.

Tom: Yes, she says "I was working *too hard*". She means she was working hard, more than was good for her.

Tom: Now let's look at the difference between 'too' and 'very'. Some learners find this difficult. Listen to Carolina talking to Jamie's father about life in Britain. Listen to 'very'.

Doug: So Carolina. What do you think of this country of ours? A bit cold for you is it?

Carolina: I like it. It's very different from Venezuela, but I like it here.

Tom: She says Britain is very different from Venezuela – but she likes it. Now imagine she says "Britain is *too* different from Venezuela". 'Too' gives the idea that she doesn't like Britain – that she's unhappy, because it's 'too different' – the difference isn't a good thing. And that isn't what she wanted to say. Let me give you another example. I can say "My house is very small". OK, my house is small, but maybe I like small houses! 'Very' can be good or bad. But if I say "My house is *too* small" then you know that

I'm not happy with my house – that I'd like to have a bigger one. Listen to one more example. Jamie's mother is going to get Carolina another cup of tea. Listen to what Carolina says.

Carolina: Well OK, if it isn't too much trouble. Thank you.

Tom: We use 'If it isn't too much trouble' a lot – when we want to be polite. You can use it when someone offers to help you.

Now I want to talk about something to help you learn and remember vocabulary. Do you remember the quiz? All of the words were places in an airport. Listen.

Ravi: Erm. The place you go to just before you get on the plane ... erm ...

Davis: Departure lounge

Ravi: No. "Could passengers travelling to Paris on Flight three seven two please go to hnn twenty one"

Davis: Gate!

Ravi: Yes.

Tom: You can do this too. When you're in a place, maybe an airport, or a train station, or a cinema, or a supermarket – try to name everything that you see in English. Or imagine that you're in a place – and imagine what you can see around you. Make a note of the things that you don't know and then try to find out how to say them in English. Ask your teacher, or a friend, or find the word in a bilingual dictionary. A bilingual dictionary is useful when you want to know the names of things. You can use the internet for finding translations of words too. Or you can buy very good *picture* dictionaries nowadays. See what you can find. And if you're in a place with a friend you can play a game together. At the airport you can say "I can see something beginning with 'R' – and your friend can say 'runway!'. Try it – it's good for your

vocabulary.

Now for something different. This isn't really about language, but it's important if you go to Britain. It's about what we do when we meet people for the first time. What people do in Britain may be different from what you do in your country. Listen to Carolina when she meets Jamie's mother for the first time.

{doorbell – door opens}

Mary: Hellooo! {hugs and kisses Jamie}

Jamie: This is Carolina, mum ...

Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.

Carolina: Hello. Um... it's nice to meet you too.

Tom: Mary kisses Jamie, but she doesn't kiss Carolina. In some countries, people kiss when they meet people for the first time. But we don't usually do this in Britain. When you meet someone it's polite to say "Hello" or "Nice to meet you". In more formal situations, you can shake hands too. But most British people don't kiss. Some British people kiss people that they know well – their friends and family – when they say "hello" or "goodbye". But not all British people. So it's probably better not to kiss until someone offers to kiss you!

And now for a phrase that *you* can use this week. Listen again to Tess talking about spending too much time on her computer. Listen to Ravi's answer.

Tess: Honestly, sometimes I think I spend too much time on the computer.

Ravi: I know what you mean. It's easy to spend hours and hours on the internet just looking at different things.

Tom: Ravi says "I know what you mean". He sometimes does the same thing himself so he understands what she's saying. He agrees with her. If someone says "I didn't enjoy the English class today", you can say "I know what you

mean. It was a bit boring wasn't it?" But of course, I hope you don't think your English classes are boring! Anyway, try to use "I know what you mean" this week.

OK. I'm going to stop there. I'll talk to you all again next time. Remember you can write to me about any language that *you* noticed in this podcast. The address is learnenglishpodcastATbritishcouncilDOT org. In a moment you'll hear the address for the website where you can read everything you've heard in this podcast. You can also find some practice exercises to do online and a support pack that you can print. Right. That's all for this time. Bye for now! See you next time.

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