

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 4

Podcasts Series 2: Episode 10

Support Pack

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, Ravi and Gordon. Tick all the phrases you think are true. There may be more than one right answer.

- a) Gordon was the producer for the first series of the podcast
- b) Gordon has made a TV programme about boats
- c) Gordon has enjoyed his new job
- d) Gordon is going to tell a joke later

Section 2

2. Listen to Gordon talking about whales. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Gordon was hunting whales
- b) It was the first time Gordon had ever seen a whale
- c) Gordon likes whales because we don't know everything about them
- d) There are about forty species of whale in the world

Section 3

3. Listen to the quiz. How many questions do Tess and Ravi get right? Tick the right score.

- a) Tess 2 : Ravi 3
- b) Tess 3: Ravi 2
- c) Tess 4 : Ravi 1
- d) Tess 5 : Ravi 0

Section 4

4. Which of these superpowers do the people say they'd like to have? Tick all the things they talk about.

- a) healing broken hearts
- b) being invisible
- c) flying
- d) being very strong
- e) climbing buildings like Spiderman
- f) granting people's wishes
- g) reading people's minds

Section 5

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

- a) Carolina phones Jamie
- b) Carolina's address is 36A, Bowsden Hall
- c) Carolina wants a taxi to get to the train station
- d) Carolina waits for the taxi downstairs

6. Now listen to the conversation in the taxi. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Carolina is late for her train
- b) A friend phones Carolina in the taxi
- c) Carolina leaves her bag in the taxi
- d) Jamie phones Carolina

Section 6

7. Listen to the joke. Why does the man ask to speak to the cat on the phone? Tick the right answer.

- a) because he likes the cat
- b) because he wants to know where the cat is
- c) because he wants the cat to tell him the way home
- d) because he wants to make his wife angry

Section 1 – "It's great to see you again!" – meeting old friends

Exercise 1

In this podcast, Tess and Ravi have a visitor in the studio – their old producer, Gordon. They haven't seen him for a long time. Look at the conversation and put the phrases into the right places. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

Have you managed to survive	it's lovely to see you again
How are you?	it's not the same, Gordon
I'll tell you more about it	It's lovely to be here.
I'm very well, thank you, very well.	what have you been doing

Ravi: Hello, Gordon.

Gordon: Hi Ravi, hi Tess.

Tess: Hi Gordon. It's lovely to see you again. 1. _____

Gordon: 2. _____ How are you both? OK?

Tess: Yeah, I'm fine, thanks.

Ravi: I'm good, thanks.

Ravi: So, 3. _____ since we last saw you, Gordon?

Gordon: Well, after we did the last series of the podcast, I got a job working on a TV documentary programme about whales.

Tess: Brilliant. What were you doing?

Gordon: I was working on the sound for the programme – we filmed a lot of it on a boat. It was absolutely fantastic – but, listen, 4. _____ sometime. Anyway, how are you two? 5. _____ without me?

Tess: Well, 6. _____, you know, but, yeah, we've had lots of interesting people on – it's been really good.

Gordon: Any jokes?

Ravi: Oh yes. Gordon used to tell a joke in every podcast. At first we didn't have a joke in this series but so many people said they really liked your jokes – it's difficult to believe it, I know – so we decided to have more jokes.

Gordon: Well, I've got a great one for you.

Tess: A joke and your whale stories – it's the Gordon show today. But that's OK –

7. _____.

Gordon: 8. _____

Ravi: OK. Well, I'm dying to hear about these whales so let's move on...

Section 1 – "It's great to see you again!" – meeting old friends

Exercise 2

Here are three conversations between people who haven't seen each other for a long time. The three columns – Conversation A, Conversation B and Conversation C – have been mixed up. The conversations are in the right order, and have the same number of "turns": 12. Can you separate them and make three logical conversations?

With highlighter pens, colour the turns in three different colours. The first and the last turns have been done for you. Alternatively, you can cut the turns out with a pair of scissors and arrange them on a table. See *Answers* at the end of this pack.

Conversation A	Conversation B	Conversation C
A ¹ Hiya Stan!	B ¹ Well hello there Jane!	C ¹ David? Is that you?
A ² Blimey – hiya Colin	B ³ I don't believe it. Linda Jones!	C ² Lynn! Good grief! How nice to see you. It must be years...
³ Yes, David. When was the last time...? January? That conference in Harrogate?	³ It's been ages! How *are* you? I haven't seen you since... since...	³ Linda Bower actually – I got married. I don't think we've met up since school, have we?
⁴ Manchester? Don't know. Seems like years ago. Anyway, how are *you*?	⁴ Since school? Is it really that long? So, how are things with you?	⁴ January? Really? It seems ages ago. Well, they say "Time flies..." How are things? How have you been?
⁵ Great. I told you I got married – to Tom Mitchell – I don't think you knew him. And you? You were going out with Gary Lennox if I remember.	⁵ Everything's fine – well, I did have a short stay in hospital but ...	⁵ Oh, I'm okay. Still breathing! What about you? Everything okay?
⁶ Oh I'm sorry to hear that. Nothing serious, I hope	⁶ Yes, I was, wasn't I? What a terrible thought! No, we split up ages ago. I'm still living at home actually.	⁶ Yes, fine thanks. I'm still at Clarkson's, working away in Product Innovation. You? Still in Development?
⁷ No, no. Everything's fine. And what about you and your family. Are they all well?	⁷ Yes, nothing changes there! And the family, all well? How's your newest one – Jo?	⁷ With your parents? Very sensible! How are they? I always liked your mum.
⁸ Yes. Well, Catherine – she's my eldest, you may remember, she's gone off to University...	⁸ She's fine. She's still working at the supermarket. I'm afraid my dad died a few years ago so she's had a bit of a bad time.	⁸ Joan, actually. Yes, she's fine. Teething at the moment, so not much sleep! Look, Colin, I'm in a bit of a rush at the moment, but I'll give you a ring. Are you still living in the same place?

⁹ Yes. Wurzel Road. Yes, do give me a ring and we'll meet up for a couple of beers some time.

⁹ Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. Please give her my love if she remembers me.

⁹ University? I always think of her as a little girl!

¹⁰ Hah, yes. 18 now, of course. Well, time flies, as I said. And then there's Janine, well, she's doing exams soon...

¹⁰ Great, I'd love that. And sorry – must go. Best of love to Carla!

¹⁰ Will do. She'd probably like to see you. Why don't you call round some time? We're usually in in the evenings.

Conversation A

^{A11} Yes. Hear from you soon, I hope. Bye!

^{A12} Yes – see you!

Conversation B

^{B11} OK. I'd like that – maybe next week? Tuesday?

^{B12} Great. Looking forward to it.

Conversation C

^{C11} ...And your wife. How's Margaret?

^{C12} Maggie? Oh, well, she's...

Section 1 – "It's great to see you again!" – meeting old friends

Exercise 3

Now you can practice this dialogue with a friend. Imagine you are meeting five years in the future, but that you haven't met since this week...

Section 2 – Would like to talk about ...

In this section, you heard Gordon talking about his experiences when he was making a TV programme, and how much he enjoyed seeing whales for the first time. Can you remember when you saw a special animal for the first time? Where was it and how did you feel? Write a paragraph about what happened and about the animal.

If you want, you can add your paragraph to the "Your turn" comments on the website, or send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Here are some phrases that might help you:

It was the first time I'd ever....

It was [absolutely/really] amazing/incredible/fantastic/unbelievable/superb

It made me laugh/cry/shout/smile/scream

I felt excited/frightened/happy/humble/sad

It was special because...

The main reason it was special is....

They are such special/amazing/funny/enormous/intelligent/beautiful/magnificent animals/creatures

The main thing I like about them is....

Another thing I like is...

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 1

The quiz today was about whales. Here are the questions that Gordon asked. Match them to the answers.

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

1. Which is the deepest ocean in the world?
2. What's the biggest species of whale?
3. How big is the blue whale?
4. How long do sperm whales live?
5. How much does a blue whale's heart weigh?

a) More than seventy years'
b) Six hundred kilos.
c) The blue whale.
d) The Pacific
e) Up to thirty five metres

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 2

General knowledge quizzes can be a good way to increase your vocabulary, and to practice making questions. Here are some questions using the 'How + adjective' construction. Match them with the answers below. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

- How long is the river Nile?
- How wide is the Atlantic Ocean?
- How big is Dubai?
- How tall is the London Eye?
- How deep is the Dead Sea?
- How fast is an elephant?
- How rich is Bill Gates?
- How heavy is biggest diamond ever found?
- How hot is the Atacama desert?
- How cold is the coldest place on Earth?
- How old is the Sydney Opera House in Australia?

- He is worth an estimated \$53 billion.
- It covers an area of 4114 km².
- It is 378m deep, the deepest salt lake in the world.
- It is a giant 135-metre tall Ferris wheel.
- It is the driest place on earth, but is actually quite a cold place, with average daily temperatures between 0°C and 25°C.

- f. It was 3,106.75 carats (621.35 g).
- g. It was officially opened in October 1973, which makes it 37 years old in 2010.
- h. It's 3944km from the east coast of Canada to the west coast of France.
- i. It's about 6670 km from start to finish.
- j. The record goes to Vostok Station, Antarctica, where the temperature reached -89.4°C on 21 July 1983.
- k. The top speed is about 40 kilometres per hour.

Section 3 – Quiz – Exercise 3

Now try writing some questions of your own. You can use 'How + adjective' or different question forms. Then try your questions on a friend. See if he or she can find the answers and explain them in English.

Section 4 – Your turn

In 'Your Turn' this time, the question was "Superman can fly. The Hulk is very strong. The Invisible Man is invisible. What superpower would you like to have?"

What about you? If you could have a superpower, what would it be? Are there any superpowers that you think would be a very *bad* idea to have?

We'd like you to write to us and tell us what you think. Add your paragraph to the "Your turn" comments on the website, or send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Here are some phrases and some vocabulary that might help you to express your ideas:

superpower structures	some superpower nouns	some superpower verbs	
<i>I'd like to be...</i>	<i>an invisible coat</i>	<i>read people's minds</i>	<i>remember everything I read</i>
<i>I'd like to have...</i>	<i>X-ray vision</i>	<i>know if someone is lying</i>	<i>control the weather</i>
<i>I'd like to be able to...</i>	<i>a time machine</i>	<i>cure diseases</i>	<i>grant people's wishes</i>
<i>I'd like to have the power/the ability to...</i>	<i>eternal life</i>	<i>speak any language</i>	<i>be super strong</i>
<i>because...</i>		<i>stay young for ever</i>	<i>talk to animals</i>
<i>then I could...</i>		<i>see the future</i>	<i>stop and start time</i>
<i>then I would...</i>		<i>change shape</i>	<i>eat what I want and never get fat</i>
		<i>move things with my mind</i>	<i>transport myself to other places</i>
		<i>never need to sleep</i>	

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1

Look at some parts of Carolina's conversations with the taxi company on the phone and with the taxi driver. Put the expressions in the right places. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

And keep the change	Since September
How long do you think it'll take?	Ten forty-five
I want to go to the station	thank you
I'd like to order a taxi please	that's right
Oh I will	Yes please

1	<i>[on the phone]</i> Carolina: Hello. Blueline taxis? _____.
2	Carolina: _____ – Newcastle train station.
3	<i>[in the taxi]</i> Taxi driver: Right. To the station isn't it love? Carolina: _____.
4	Carolina: _____ Taxi driver: Not long at this time of day.
5	Taxi driver: What time's your train? Carolina: _____.
6	Taxi driver: Off home for the holidays then? Carolina: Yes, _____.
7	Taxi driver: Been here in Newcastle long then? Carolina: _____.
8	Taxi driver: Here we are then. Twenty past ten. Plenty of time. Carolina: Yes, _____.
9	Taxi driver: That'll be eight pounds ten please. Carolina: Here you are. _____.
10	Taxi driver: Thank you very much. Enjoy your holiday. Carolina: _____. Thank you very much. Bye.

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.

[on the phone]

1. *Carolina:* Hello. Blueline taxis? _____.

- a) Can I have a taxi please?
- b) I am calling a taxi
- c) I need a taxi please
- d) I'd like to order a taxi please

2. *Carolina:* _____ – Newcastle train station.

- a) Let's go to the station
- b) I want to go to the station
- c) I'm going to the station
- d) It's to the station

3. *[in the taxi] Taxi driver:* Right. To the station isn't it love?

Carolina: _____.

- a) Yes it is
- b) Yes I go
- c) Yes please
- d) Yes, that's right

4. *Carolina:* _____

Taxi driver: Not long at this time of day.

- a) How long is the station?
- b) Will it take long?
- c) How long will it take?
- d) How long do you think it'll take?

5. *Taxi driver:* What time's your train?

Carolina: _____.

- a) A quarter to eleven
- b) Fifteen to eleven
- c) Ten forty-five
- d) Ten and three-quarters

6. *Taxi driver*: Off home for the holidays then?

Carolina: Yes, _____.

- a) that's right
- b) I am
- c) I do
- d) please

7. *Taxi driver*: Been here in Newcastle long then?

Carolina: _____.

- a) No, not long
- b) Since September
- c) For a few months
- d) From September

8. *Taxi driver*: Here we are then. Twenty past ten. Plenty of time.

Carolina: Yes, _____.

- a) thanks a lot
- b) I'm good
- c) thank you
- d) that's great

9. *Taxi driver*: That'll be eight pounds ten please.

Carolina: Here you are. _____.

- a) The money is yours
- b) I'll pay nine pounds
- c) Keep the change
- d) Stay with the rest

10. *Taxi driver*: Thank you very much. Enjoy your holiday.

Carolina: Oh _____ . Thank you very much. Bye.

- a) of course
- b) I will
- c) I can
- d) I hope so

Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 3

Now imagine that you need a taxi. You phone the taxi company and then you talk to the driver in the taxi. Complete the conversations.

[on the phone]

Phone operator: Good morning. Blueline taxis. Can I help you?

You: _____

Phone operator: Where are you?

You: _____

Phone operator: And where do you want to go?

You: _____

Phone operator: It'll be there in ten minutes. Cab number 906.

You: _____

Phone operator: Can I have your mobile number in case there's a delay?

You: _____

[in the taxi]

Taxi driver: So where is it to?

You: _____

Taxi driver: Right then Off we go.

You: _____ ?

Taxi driver: About half an hour. What time do you need to be there?

You: _____

Taxi driver: No problem. So, are you going somewhere nice?

You: _____

Taxi driver: have you been in Britain long?

You: _____

[...]

Taxi driver: Right. Here we are then. Plenty of time.

You: _____

Taxi driver: That's twelve pounds fifty please.

You: _____

Taxi driver: Thanks you very much. Have a good time.

You: _____

Now you can practice the dialogue with a friend.

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.

	"Hello?" she says. "Is the cat there?" says the man. "Yes", she says.
	"Right", thinks the man. The next day – his wife isn't there again – he takes the cat, puts it in the car and drives <i>twenty</i> miles. He throws the cat out of the car and drives away.
	"Well can you put him on the phone, please? I need to ask him for directions"
	And this man <i>hates</i> the cat so much that he makes a plan to get rid of the cat.
	One day, when his wife isn't at home, he takes the cat, puts it in the car and drives ten miles away from home. He throws the cat out of the car and drives away.
	The next day, he takes the cat, covers its eyes, puts it in the car and drives <i>fifty</i> miles. He goes over hills, through tunnels – he turns left, turns right, he makes it <i>impossible</i> for the cat to know where they are and he throws it out of the car and drives away.
	This is a story about a man whose wife has a cat – and this man, he <i>hates</i> the cat. He can't stand it.
	Two hours later, the man calls his wife.
	When he gets home again, what do you think? - the cat is sitting on the doorstep again. Well, by now he's really annoyed about this.
	When he gets home, who do you think is sitting on the doorstep waiting for him? The cat.

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 1

Tom talked about 'strong adjectives' in this podcast. There are lots of words in English that mean 'very good' or 'very bad'. Can you complete the words below? See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

very good	very bad
1. f _ _ t _ _ _ ic	12. d _ _ _ us _ _ ng
2. inc _ _ d _ _ le	13. _ err _ _ _ e
3. _ ri _ _ iant	14. h _ _ r _ b _ _
4. a _ a _ i _ g	15. a _ _ _ l
5. g _ _ _ t	16. dr _ _ df _ _
6. p _ rf _ _ t	17. r _ p _ _ si _ e
7. _ on _ er _ _ l	18. h a _ e _ ul
8. s _ _ _ r	
9. ma _ v _ _ _ _ us	
10. _ we _ _ me	
11. e _ x _ ll _ _ _	

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 2

Now match these strong adjectives to their meanings. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1	very nice
2	very cold
3	very angry
4	very funny
5	very small
6	very big
7	very clever
8	very tired
9	very afraid

beautiful
brilliant
huge
exhausted
freezing
furious
hilarious
terrified
tiny

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 3

Now choose which words can go with the adjective in each sentence. There may be 1 or 2 right answers for each question. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Have you seen Jane's new hairstyle? It looks _____ nice.

- a) very
- b) really
- c) absolutely

2. Close the window! It's _____ freezing in here!

- a) very
- b) quite
- c) absolutely

3. My boss was _____ furious with me yesterday.

- a) really
- b) absolutely
- c) quite

4. The film was _____ funny.

- a) very
- b) absolutely
- c) quite

5. The restaurant's expensive but the portions are _____ tiny.

- a) really
- b) quite
- c) absolutely

6. She's very rich and her house is _____ huge.

- a) absolutely
- b) quite
- c) really

7. I've just had a/an _____ clever idea!
- a) very
 - b) really
 - c) absolutely
8. What a long day! I'm _____ exhausted!
- a) very
 - b) quite
 - c) absolutely
9. When I saw that lion walking towards me I was _____ terrified!
- a) very
 - b) really
 - c) quite
10. Sorry I'm late. The traffic was _____ terrible.
- a) quite
 - b) absolutely
 - c) really
11. I had some _____ fantastic news today.
- a) really
 - b) absolutely
 - c) very
12. That new CD is _____ good – you should listen to it.
- a) absolutely
 - b) very
 - c) really

Section 7 – Tom – Exercise 4

Tom talked about different ways of saying the numeral "0". Choose the right answer for each situation. *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. Tess won the quiz 5:0

- a) five zero
- b) five nil
- c) five love
- d) five oh

2. Tel: 213407998

- a) zero
- b) nil
- c) love
- d) oh

3. water freezes at 0 degrees centigrade

- a) zero
- b) nil
- c) love
- d) oh

4. The train leaves at 12.04

- a) twelve zero four
- b) twelve nil four
- c) twelve love four
- d) twelve oh four

5. The score was Barcelona 1: Manchester United 0

- a) zero
- b) nil
- c) love
- d) oh

6. Tennis news – Nadal won the first set 6:0

- a) six : zero
- b) six : nil
- c) six : love
- d) six: oh

7. My grandmother was born in 1905

- a) nineteen zero five
- b) nineteen nil five
- c) nineteen love five
- d) nineteen oh five

8. Let's count down – 5.... 4.... 3.... 2....1.... 0!

- a) zero
- b) nil
- c) love
- d) oh

9. James Bond was called 007

- a) zero
- b) nil
- c) love
- d) oh

Transcript

Section 1 – Gordon has come back

Tess: Hello and welcome once again to the Learn English Elementary podcast. This is podcast number ten in series two. We're your presenters – I'm Tess ..

Ravi: And I'm Ravi. I'm sorry to say that this is the last podcast in this series ..

Tess: Awww

Ravi: But the good news is that it's a very special podcast today and we've got a special guest with us in the studio today. If you've been listening to our podcasts for a long time you'll remember Gordon. Gordon was our producer for Series One of the podcast.

Tess: Producer and joke teller, Ravi.

Ravi: Yeah, Gordon told us some great jokes, that's true. Anyway, at the start of this series of the podcast, we told you that Gordon had a new job. Well, today, he's back here in the studio with us. Say hello, Gordon.

Gordon: Hi Ravi, hi Tess.

Tess: Hi Gordon. It's lovely to see you again. How are you?

Gordon: I'm very well, thank you, very well. How are you both? OK?

Tess & Ravi: Yeah, I'm fine, thanks. I'm good, thanks.

Ravi: So, what have you been doing since we last saw you, Gordon?

Gordon: Well, after we did the last series of the podcast, I got a job working on a TV documentary programme about whales.

Ravi: The country?

Gordon: No, Ravi – whales in the sea.

Tess: Brilliant. What were you doing?

Gordon: I was working on the sound for the programme – we filmed a lot of it on a boat.

Ravi: So did you see a lot of whales?

Gordon: Hundreds. It was absolutely fantastic – but, listen, I'm going to tell you more about it a little bit later so I won't tell you now. How are you two? Have you managed to do the podcast without me?

Tess: Well, it's not the same Gordon, you know, but, yeah, we've had lots of interesting people on – it's been really good.

Gordon: Any jokes?

Ravi: Oh yes. Gordon used to tell a joke in every podcast. At first we didn't have a joke in this series but so many people said they really liked your jokes – it's difficult to believe it, I know – so we decided to have more jokes.

Gordon: Well, I've got a great one for you.

Tess: A joke and your whale stories – it's the Gordon show today. But that's OK – it's lovely to see you again.

Gordon: It's lovely to be here.

Section 2 – I'd like to talk about

Ravi: OK. Well, I'm dying to hear about these whales so let's move on. If you listen to our podcasts regularly, you'll know that we usually start with 'I'd Like to Talk About' – when someone comes into the studio and tells us about something that's important to them – a place, a thing, a person – whatever. Well, as we've got Gordon with us today, we thought it would be nice to hear a little bit about what he's been doing since we last saw him. Now, Gordon, I know we're going to listen to part of your documentary. Can you tell us what it is before we hear it?

Gordon: Well, this is from the first programme in the series. We were on a boat near Provincetown, in Massachusetts in the USA, looking for humpback whales. We'd just started filming and none of us had ever seen a humpback whale and ... well, listen and you'll hear what happened.

Narrator: We're just coming out past the lighthouses now into the open waters of the Atlantic Ocean. One hundred and fifty years ago, thousands of ships made this same journey into the Atlantic because Cape Cod, back there, was the centre of the American whaling industry. Ships leaving this port killed thousands of whales all over the world. Now, ironically, Cape Cod is one of the best places in the world to see whales – and that's why we're here.

The seabirds we can see circling over there are a good sign. The birds often circle like that in places where whales are feeding. We'll head in that direction.

There! That cloud of water in the air there tells us that there are humpback whales over there Another! Any minute now we should see ... WOW! Woohoo! Amazing!

Tess: That sounds incredible.

Gordon: It was amazing. I know we can only hear it here, we can't see it, but when that humpback whale came up then it was so close I could smell its breath – it was absolutely incredible.

Ravi: What did its breath smell like?

Gordon: Pretty bad – quite fishy

Ravi: Yeah? I know someone like that.

Gordon: You know, that was the first time I'd ever seen a whale – and it was so close. It's always special when you see whales but that first time was extra special.

Tess: Why is it always special?

Gordon: Well, I think it's because whales are so special. We think we know something about them but they live in huge oceans and, really, we hardly know anything about them. We probably know more about the moon than we do about the oceans. And, you know, people spent hundreds of years hunting and killing whales – we're lucky that there are any whales left at all. And – and this is the main reason it

feels special to see whales – they're such amazing creatures.

Ravi: Are people still hunting whales?

Gordon: They are, unfortunately, in some places. But what we found was that whale watching – people paying to go out to sea and look at whales – is a really big business now and, hopefully, some of that money can be used to help protect whales.

Tess: How many different kinds of whale did you see?

Gordon: Over the whole programme, I think we saw fifteen different kinds.

Ravi: How many different kinds are there?

Gordon: Well, that's a good question. There are thirteen species that people usually think of as the 'great whales' but, altogether, there are about forty species of whale. The thing is, though, that we're not absolutely sure exactly how many species of whale there are. The oceans are huge and we don't really know much about them, as I said. There could be species of whales that we've never seen. It's another thing I like about them – there's still some mystery.

Ravi: Yeah. I know whales are big – everyone knows that – but how big are they, exactly?

Gordon: Well that depends on the species but ... Actually, Ravi, you'll have to wait until the quiz to find that out.

Ravi: The quiz? Are you doing that as well?

Gordon: Well, I've got one or two questions for you two, yes.

Ravi: Me against Tess? Excellent.

Tess: Yeah? You've got no chance, Ravi. That all sounds great though Gordon. I'm really looking forward to seeing that when it's on TV.

Gordon: Well, it's being edited at the moment but it should be ready in a couple of months.

Ravi: I'll definitely watch it. Now. Shall we have this quiz?

Section 3 – Quiz

Tess: Just a moment, Ravi. If you've listened before, you'll know that on each podcast we have a quiz. Usually we ask the questions to someone else but this time, because it's a special podcast, Gordon's going to ask the questions and Ravi and I are going to answer them.

Gordon: OK – I've prepared some questions for you. You've both got buzzers – let's hear them. Ravi [buzz] Tess [buzz]. Good. You get one point for a correct answer. The winner is the first one to five points. OK?

Tess & Ravi: OK. Right.

Gordon: OK then. Let's start. Fingers on the buzzers. Which is the deepest ocean in the world? The Atlantic, the Pacific or the

Ravi: The Atlantic

Gordon: No. Tess?

Tess: What are the choices?

Gordon: The deepest ocean – the Atlantic, the Pacific or the Indian ocean.

Tess: The Pacific?

Gordon: Correct. One nil to Tess. Next question. What's the biggest species of whale? Is it the humpback whale, the sperm whale

Ravi: Humpback whale

Gordon: No. Tess? What's the biggest species of whale? The humpback whale, the sperm whale or the blue whale?

Tess: I know this. The blue whale.

Gordon: That's right. Two nil to Tess. Question three. How big is the blue whale? Is it up to twenty five metres long, up to thirty five metres long or up to forty five metres long?

Ravi: Erm .. up to forty five metres long.

Gordon: Sorry Ravi. Tess?

Tess: Up to thirty five metres?

Gordon: That's right. Three nil to Tess.

Ravi: This is a disaster. Right. Come on, ask us another.

Gordon: Question four. How long do sperm whales live? More than 70 years, more than 80 years or more than a hundred years?

Ravi: I'm not going to buzz first Tess – I'm waiting for you to get it wrong then I'm going to give my answer.

Tess: Erm, I'll say 'more than seventy years', Gordon.

Gordon: That's right. Four nil to Tess.

Ravi: AAAAGGGGH.

Gordon: Question five. We said that the blue whale is the biggest kind of whale. How much does a blue whale's heart weigh?

Ravi: Oh come on, no-one knows that.

Gordon: Is it five hundred kilograms, six hundred kilograms or seven hundred kilograms?

Tess: I'll have a guess. The middle one. Six hundred kilos.

Gordon: Yes! That's right. We have a winner!

Ravi: No way! I was going to say six hundred as well. Five nil! I can't believe it.

Tess: Never mind, Ravi. I just know more about whales than you, that's all.

Ravi: OK, let's pretend the quiz never happened and move on. What's next? We've got Your Turn – listen to this one – what superpower would you like to have? – great question – we've got Carolina and we've got a joke from Gordon. I can't wait. That's all after this.

Section 4 – Your Turn

Tess: Time now for Your Turn. This is when we ask some people a question and listen to their answers. The topics are sometimes serious, sometimes not so serious but the answers are

always interesting. Here's the question this time: "Superman can fly. The Hulk is very strong. The Invisible Man is invisible. What superpower would you like to have?" I like it. Let's hear what people said.

Voice 1: I would like to have a super power to heal a broken heart because, ah, there's no remedy for a broken heart – it's not like, ah, if you have a cold or flu then you have the appropriate medicine for that, but if you have a broken heart then there is really no medicine, ah, people will say that, um, time heals a broken heart, but if I have this super power then I can speed up the process and to heal every, um, weeping soul.

Voice 2: I think I'd like to be invisible, too, so I can listen in and see what people are doing when they don't know I'm there.

Voice 3: If I could choose any super power I would choose the ability to fly, um, because I sometimes have dreams where I'm flying and it's a very free feeling, it's a very good feeling to be able to go anywhere you want very quickly, and, um, enjoy the view of the Earth from above.

Voice 4: If I had a super power I'd like to be like the genie in the bottle and be able to grant other people wishes, because it would be so much fun every day to walk around giving people exactly what they want and making their lives better.

Voice 5: I would like to have a, ah, super power that can read and tell the minds, what's in the mind and the heart of people.

Tess: Ravi? I know you'll be dying to say something on this.

Ravi: Hmm. I can't decide. Flying's a good one. Invisibility would be great too. Hmm. I don't know. What about you?

Tess: Would knowing a lot about whales be a superpower? Oh, I've got that one already.

Ravi: Very good.

Tess: Actually, I don't know. It's nice to say something like 'mending a broken heart' or 'making people's lives better', but, really, I think flying is what I'd like. I'd love to be able to fly.

Ravi: Me too. Remember, listeners, you can tell us what you think about Your Turn by writing to us or recording yourself and sending it to us at LearnEnglishPodcast @ BritishCouncil dot org. What superpower would you like to have?

Tess: OK. Now it's time for Carolina. Remember Carolina, Gordon?

Gordon: Oh yes.

Section 5 – Carolina

Tess: Carolina is from Venezuela but she's come to study at Newcastle University in the north east of England. In every podcast we hear something about what Carolina's been doing. Last time, she went to a restaurant with her boyfriend, Jamie – although I don't think they had a good time, really. This time, it's the end of term and Carolina's getting ready to go back to Venezuela for the summer.

Carolina: OK Emily. I think I'm ready.

Emily: Sure you've got everything?

Carolina: Oh I don't know. I've probably forgotten something. I hate travelling – it makes me really stressed.

Emily: Money, passport, tickets. That's all you really need.

Carolina: Yes ...I've got money ... my passport ... and my tickets. Oh dear. Well – I guess I'm ready to go.

Emily: Why don't you phone him?

Carolina: Phone who?

Emily: Jamie of course. You've been checking your phone for messages every five minutes for the last two days. Just phone him.

Carolina: I can't. He knows I'm leaving today – he promised to phone. He hasn't called since

we had that horrible dinner together. He obviously doesn't want to speak to me.

Emily: But you obviously want to speak to him. You can't go away feeling miserable.

Carolina: I'm not going to phone him Emily.

Emily: OK, it's your decision. I think you're mad, but it's up to you. So are you going to phone a taxi? The number's on the table by the door.

Carolina: OK. Hello. Blueline taxis? Um, I'd like to order a taxi please. I'm at Bowsden Hall. Yes, that's right; the university residences. It's number 36A. Yes that's right. I want to go to the station – Newcastle train station. Yes, that's right – Central Station. Ten minutes? OK. Cab number 647? OK, I'll go downstairs and wait. My mobile number is 033 474 61037. Thank you very much.

Emily: You don't need to go downstairs – we can see him coming from the window.

Carolina: No, I'd rather go down. I'm a bit nervous. I can't relax. I think I'll go down now and wait.

Emily: OK. I'll help you with your bag.

Carolina: No it's OK. I can manage. So, goodbye then Emily.

Emily: Bye bye. Have a lovely time – and see you when you get back.

Carolina: Yes OK. Have a good holiday too Emily.

Emily: You've forgotten your handbag.

Carolina: Oh! Thanks.

Emily: Money, passport, tickets

Carolina: Money, passport, tickets

Taxi driver: Right. To the station isn't it love?

Carolina: Yes please. How long do you think it'll take?

Taxi driver: Not long at this time of day. What time's your train?

Carolina: Ten forty-five.

Taxi driver: No problem.

Taxi driver: Off home for the holidays then?

Carolina: Yes, that's right.

Taxi driver: Somewhere nice?

Carolina: Venezuela. Caracas.

Taxi driver: Venezuela! That's a long way to go. Been here in Newcastle long then?

Carolina: Since September.

Taxi driver: Is this your first trip home then?

Carolina: Yes, that's right.

Taxi driver: You must be looking forward to seeing your family.

Carolina: Oh just a minute – excuse me. Oh hello Henry. Yes, yes, I'm in the taxi. Yes I will. And you have a good holiday too. Yes I will. OK. Thanks for calling. Bye.

Taxi driver: Boyfriend saying goodbye?

Carolina: No.

Taxi driver: What do you think of good old Newcastle then? Bet the weather's a bit cold for you ...

Taxi driver: Here we are then. Twenty past ten. Plenty of time.

Carolina: Yes, thank you.

Taxi driver: That'll be eight pounds ten please.

Carolina: Here you are. And um, keep the change.

Taxi driver: Thank you very much. Enjoy your holiday.

Carolina: Oh I will. Thank you very much. Bye.

Taxi driver: Don't forget your handbag.

Carolina: Oh! Thank you.

Carolina: Hello Jamie. Yes, I'm at the station. I've just got out of the taxi

Tess: Awwwww. I'm so glad Jamie called. I knew he would.

Ravi: Oh Tess. Well, listeners, that's all from Carolina for now. I'm sure that, like me, you've all been waiting to hear from Gordon again. Ready Gordon?

Section 6 – Gordon's Joke

Gordon: Ready.

Ravi: So, Gordon's joke.

Gordon: Right. This is a story about a man whose wife has a cat – and this man, he hates the cat. He can't stand it.

Tess: How can anyone hate cats? Cats are lovely.

Gordon: Not this cat – it's horrible – and this man hates the cat so much that he makes a plan to get rid of the cat. One day, when his wife isn't at home, he takes the cat, puts it in the car and drives ten miles away from home. He throws the cat out of the car and drives away. When he gets home, who do you think is sitting on the doorstep waiting for him?

Tess: The cat.

Gordon: Exactly. 'Right', thinks the man. The next day – his wife isn't there again – he takes the cat, puts it in the car and drives twenty miles. He throws the cat out of the car and drives away. When he gets home again, what do you think, the cat is sitting on the doorstep again. Well, by now he's really annoyed about this. The next day, he takes the cat, covers its eyes, puts it in the car and drives fifty miles. He goes over hills, through tunnels – he turns left, turns right, he makes it impossible for the cat to know where they are and he throws it out of the car and drives away. Well, two hours later, the man calls his wife. 'Hello?', she says. 'Is the cat there?', says the man. 'Yes', she says. 'Well can you put him on the phone, please? I need to ask him for directions'

Ravi: You've still got that old magic, Gordon.

Tess: Yeah, it's been great to have you back on the podcast, Gordon. But that's about all we've got time for this time. Don't go away, listeners,

because Tom the Teacher will be here in a minute but that's all from us and that's the end of series 2.

Ravi: We hope you enjoyed the series. Thanks for all your emails and things.

Tess: And Ravi – just one thing before we go – I have to make a confession.

Ravi: Go on.

Tess: You know the quiz today? Well, I have to admit, Gordon gave me a little bit of help with the answers.

Ravi: I knew it! I knew you must have cheated.

Tess: You looked so funny though when I got everything right. I wish we'd taken a picture – we could put it on the website.

Ravi: Right. I think that makes me the real winner of the quiz. And that sounds like a good place to finish. Bye everyone. Thanks for coming in today, Gordon. We'll see you all soon.

Tess: Yes, thanks Gordon. Bye everyone.

Gordon: Thanks for having me. 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. This is the last podcast in Series 2 so I want to start today by looking at something absolutely fantastic. Listen to Gordon talking about his job on the whale documentary.

Tess: Brilliant. What were you doing?

Gordon: I was working on the sound for the programme – we filmed a lot of it on a boat.

Ravi: So did you see a lot of whales?

Gordon: Hundreds. It was absolutely fantastic – but, listen, I'm going to tell you more about it a little bit later so I won't tell you now.

Tom: I'm interested in the adjectives Tess and Gordon used. Tess said 'brilliant' and Gordon said 'fantastic'. Now, 'brilliant' and 'fantastic' are both quite strong adjectives. They both mean 'very good'. Listen again to what Gordon said:

Gordon: Hundreds. It was absolutely fantastic

Tom: He said it was absolutely fantastic. We can only use 'absolutely' with strong adjectives like this. So we can say something is 'very big' or 'very small' but we can't use 'absolutely' here. 'Huge' means 'very big' so we can say something was 'absolutely huge' and 'tiny' means 'very small' so we can say 'it was absolutely tiny'. We only use 'absolutely' with 'strong' adjectives. Listen to another example.

Gordon: It was amazing. I know we can only hear it here, we can't see it, but when that humpback whale came up then it was so close I could smell its breath – it was absolutely incredible.

Ravi: What did its breath smell like?

Gordon: Pretty bad – quite fishy

Tom: Gordon said that seeing the whale so close was 'absolutely incredible' but he said that its breath smelt 'pretty bad' and 'quite fishy'. 'Pretty', when we use it like this means 'quite' and Gordon uses it with 'bad' because bad is just an ordinary adjective, not a strong one. One more thing though. Listen to another thing that Gordon said:

Ravi: Are people still hunting whales?

Gordon: They are, unfortunately, in some places. But what we found was that whale watching – people paying to go out to sea and look at whales – is a really big business now and, hopefully,

some of that money can be used to help protect whales.

Tom: He said that whale watching is 'a really big business'. 'Really' is a useful word because we can use it with strong adjectives like 'incredible' and with 'ordinary' adjectives like 'big'. So we can say 'It was really huge' or 'It was really big'. If you want to make an adjective stronger, 'really' is a good word to use.

Now, I wonder if you noticed a little word when Tess and Ravi were playing the quiz against each other. Listen to how Gordon says what the score is in the quiz.

Tess: I know this. The blue whale.

Gordon: That's right. Two nil to Tess. Question three. How big is the blue whale? Is it up to twenty five metres long, up to thirty five metres long or up to forty five metres long?

Ravi: Erm .. up to forty five metres long.

Gordon: Sorry Ravi. Tess?

Tess: Up to thirty five metres?

Gordon: That's right. Three nil to Tess.

Tom: Gordon said 'two nil to Tess' and 'Three nil to Tess'. What do you think 'nil' means? It means 'nothing' or 'zero' – but we only usually use it in some sports or things like quizzes. One place you often hear it is in football scores – you might say 'My team won two nil'. But you can't use it in every situation. When you give someone your telephone number for example you say 'zero' or 'nought' or even 'oh'. There are different ways to say 'zero' and it can be difficult to remember them but 'nil' is usually used for team sports.

Now, something else. Listen to what Ravi said when he introduced Gordon talking about whales.

Ravi: OK. Well, I'm dying to hear about these whales so let's move on.

Tom: Ravi said he was 'dying to hear' what Gordon had to say. A little late, when they were talking about superpowers, Tess used 'dying to' as well. Listen:

Tess: Ravi? I know you'll be dying to say something on this.

Tom: If you are 'dying to' do something, you really want to do it – you're really looking forward to it. It takes an infinitive, so you might say 'I'm dying to know what happened at the party' or 'he's dying to meet you'. See if you can use it yourself this week.

OK, that's all we've got time for today. This is the last podcast in series two so you won't hear from me for a while. Remember some of the things I've talked about – things you can do to help you learn English. This series we've talked about how important it is to have a good dictionary. We talked about 'thinking in English' – looking at things around you and thinking how to say it in English. And we also talked about looking out for English – you can probably see English every day – in the street, on TV or at the cinema – keep your eyes open for English!

And finally, remember you can write to me about any language that you noticed in this or the other podcasts. The address is LearnEnglishPodcast @ BritishCouncil DOT 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 series. Bye for now!

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 4

Podcasts Series 3: Episode 01

While you listen

Elementary Podcasts are suitable for learners with different levels of English. Here are some ways to make them easier (if you have a lower level of English) or more difficult (if you have a higher level of English). You can choose one or two of these suggestions - you don't have to do all of them!

Making it easier

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- Play each part of the podcast separately.
- Read the transcript after you have listened to the podcast.

Making it harder

- Listen to the podcast before you read the exercises.
- Only play the podcast once before answering the questions.
- Play the whole podcast without a break.
- Don't read the transcript.

Activity 1 - What can you remember about Tess and Ravi's conversation?

1. Tess and Ravi are talking about a famous British dish called...

- a) fish and fries.
- b) chips and fish.
- c) fish and sheep.
- d) fish and chips.

2. The fish is...

- a) fried in a mixture of flour and oil.
- b) covered in a mixture of water and flour.
- c) cooked in a mixture of water and oil.

3. When Ravi and Tess were young, fish and chips were wrapped in...

- a) waterproof paper.
- b) newspaper.
- c) tissue paper.

4. Tess eats fish and chips...

- a) once a year.
- b) once a month.
- c) once a week.
- d) every day.

5. Cod is getting less popular because...

- a) people don't like the taste.
- b) there are fewer fish in the sea.
- c) it's not very healthy.

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 2 - Can you remember what Ravi said about making fish and chips? Move the words into the right places in the text.

deep fry pan cover cook

So, you _____ the fish in batter and then you _____ it – that means you _____ it in a deep _____ of very hot oil, vegetable oil usually.

Activity 3 - Which words go in which categories?

chop grate knife oven bake fry
pan roast slice boil chopping board

Ways of cooking	Ways of preparing food	Things you use for cooking

Activity 4 – Leave a comment

Ravi explained how to cook fish and chips; he gave the recipe for them. Leave a comment on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-03-episode-01> with a recipe that you know well. We'll talk about our favourites next episode!

Rob and Adam – Welcome back!

Adam: Hello and welcome to the all new Learn English podcast from the British Council. My name's Adam.

Rob: And I'm Rob. In just a moment you'll hear from Tess and Ravi, but first I'll tell you something about the new podcasts. We've changed the way we give the podcasts to you and there are two important things. Firstly, the podcasts are shorter, but there are more of them. We're going to have a podcast every two weeks. Secondly, there are more ways for you to get in touch with us and we can answer your questions or your comments. If you have a question about English or about the podcast or about Tess and Ravi, then send it to us. Here's how you can do it.

Adam: You can leave a comment on LearnEnglish at www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish. You can follow us on Facebook – look for Elementary podcasts. And you can follow Tess and Ravi on Twitter – they're tessandravi. Ask us a question or tell us what you think and we can answer it in the next podcast.

Rob: Now, we're new presenters, so where are Tess and Ravi? Well, we've given them something new to do. In this series of podcasts Tess and Ravi have a project and we hope they'll help you learn.

Adam: Now, when you think about Britain, what do you think about? Do you think about big red buses? Cups of tea? Something else? We asked that question to hundreds of our listeners around the world – what do you think about when you think about Britain? And Tess and Ravi have the answers. They're going to help you find out more about some of the most British things you can think of. So, let's find out what the topic is this week.

Tess and Ravi

Ravi: Hi everyone, I'm Ravi.

Tess: And I'm Tess.

Ravi: And our job is to tell you about some of the things you think are typically British. In this series we'll tell you about British weather, the royal family, British pets... lots of 'typical' British things. But today we're going to tell you about a very famous British food – a dish that lots of people think is the typical British thing to eat. Do you know what I'm talking about? It's fish and chips.

Tess: Mmm, nice. It's true that lots of people think that fish and chips is what British people eat all the time. My Spanish friends really wanted to try fish and chips when they came to visit. So, OK then Ravi – tell us what you've learnt.

Ravi: Well, first of all, I'll say a little bit about what fish and chips are – people don't always know. It's a piece of fish, covered in batter and deep fried.

Tess: Can you tell us what batter is?

Ravi: It's a mixture of flour and water, usually. You cover the fish...

Tess: What kind of fish is it?

Ravi: Good question. It can be different kinds of fish but the most popular are cod and haddock – two fish that were very common in the sea around Britain.

Tess: Are they not so common now?

Ravi: No, they aren't – but I'll talk about that in a minute. So, you cover the fish in batter and then you deep fry it – that means you cook it in a deep pan of very hot oil, vegetable oil usually. You cook the chips the same way, you deep fry the potatoes in very hot oil.

Tess: And chips are chips, aren't they? Americans call them 'fries' or 'French fries' but we call them chips.

Ravi: I think chips are sort of bigger and thicker than French fries but yes, you're right. Anyway, you deep fry the fish and the chips, then you serve them with salt and vinegar.

Tess: Ugh, I hate vinegar.

Ravi: When I was a kid, fish and chips would always be served in newspaper. They wrapped your fish and chips up in a sheet of old newspaper, but they don't do that anymore. They use special paper, not newspaper.

Tess: Yeah, I remember the newspaper. But, you know what, I hardly ever eat fish and chips any more. All that oil and deep frying, it's not very healthy, is it?

Ravi: It's not, no. But once every now and then, Tess, it's OK to eat unhealthy things, you know.

Tess: How often do you eat fish and chips, then?

Ravi: Well, I found some information about this. Nowadays, fifty per cent of British people say they eat fish and chips once a month and fourteen per cent say they eat them once a week. I'd say I'm about once a month.

Tess: I'd say about once a year, for me. Are the numbers of people eating fish and chips going down? As I say, it's not very healthy and people are more concerned about healthy eating these days.

Ravi: People are more concerned about healthy eating but the British still eat a lot of fish and chips. There are more than ten thousand fish and chip shops in the country and they sold more than two hundred and fifty thousand meals last year. One thing is, having fish and chips is cheaper than going to a restaurant so sales are even going up when people haven't got a lot of money to spend on restaurant meals.

Tess: What about the fish, though? You said there weren't so many fish any more.

Ravi: That's right. Cod, the most popular fish for making fish and chips, is not as common in the

sea around Britain any more – numbers have really gone down. And if the numbers go down, the price goes up, so fish and chip shops now sell lots of other kinds of fish as well – but lots of people think they're not as nice... Do you know, Tess, I could talk about this for hours – I've not even mentioned the history of fish and chips yet, but we're running out of time. Shall we go and get some fish and chips?

Tess: OK, then, let's go.

Rob and Adam

Adam: That talk about fish and chips earlier has made me really hungry. How often do you eat fish and chips?

Rob: As often as I can, but not as often as when I was young.

Adam: Mmm. Right, if you've listened to the LearnEnglish podcast before, you might remember Tom the Teacher. Tom talked about the English you heard in the podcast. Tom's not around this time – he's got a job teaching in China – but that doesn't mean we can't talk about what you heard. Listen to this:

Ravi: So, you cover the fish in batter and then you deep fry it – that means you cook it in a deep pan of very hot oil – vegetable oil usually. You cook the chips the same way – you deep fry the potatoes in very hot oil.

Rob: Ravi talked about how to cook fish and chips. He said you 'cover the fish in batter' and you 'deep fry it'. Frying is a way of cooking something in oil – olive oil, vegetable oil or another kind of oil. What other ways of cooking are there?

Adam: Well, you can boil things – vegetables usually – in hot water. Errr... You can grill things. Umm... and you can bake things, in an oven. And how about the language of preparing food?

Rob: You can chop meat or vegetables, slice things, erm... grate things like cheese. We'll put a list on the website for you. And you'll find some other activities to help you learn and a transcript of what Tess and Ravi said.

Adam: I'll tell you what would be great though. Ravi told you how to cook fish and chips – the instructions on how to cook something are a recipe – and it would be great to hear some recipes from you. If you send them to us we can put them on LearnEnglish and on Tess and Ravi's Facebook page. Remember the ways you can get in touch with us?

Rob: On LearnEnglish, that's www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish. On Twitter - TessandRavi – or on Facebook – we're Elementary podcasts on Facebook. Just time now to look at a couple of comments from LearnEnglish and the Facebook page. Khalid Al Busaidi said 'I miss Tess and Ravi so much' – well, I hope you're happy you've got them back, Khalid – and lots of you saying you want to improve your English – Jinhee, Manjit, Abner – lots of you. Well, we're here to help and I hope we'll speak to you next week – we'd love to hear from you. That's all for now.

Both: Bye!

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 6 Lesson 4

Podcasts Series 3: Episode 02

While you listen

Elementary Podcasts are suitable for learners with different levels of English. Here are some ways to make them easier (if you have a lower level of English) or more difficult (if you have a higher level of English). You can choose one or two of these suggestions - you don't have to do all of them!

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Making it harder

- Listen to the podcast before you read the exercises.
- Only play the podcast once before answering the questions.
- Play the whole podcast without a break.
- Don't read the transcript.

Activity 1 – Who did what - Carolina or Emily?

- bought a lot of clothes.
- got a Valentine's card.
- makes a cup of tea.
- spent a lot of money.
- went on a study trip to France.
- went to Venezuela.

Activity 2 – Which words complete the sentences?

unbelievable / unfriended / unhappy
unhealthy / unpack / unsure

1. First I'll _____ my suitcase then I'll have a cup of tea.
2. Why do you look so _____? What's the problem?
3. Your diet is really _____. All that chocolate and sugar is really bad for you.
4. I feel really _____ about it. I can't decide what to do.
5. That can't be true! It sounds completely _____.
6. She _____ me on Facebook. I've no idea why.

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 3 - Which words go with which prefixes?

friendly honest perfect please polite
comfortable do possible trust

un-	dis-	im-

Activity 4 – Leave a comment

How do you say hello to your friends? Do you shake hands? Kiss? Hug? Bow? Perhaps you wai like people do in Thailand!

Leave a comment on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-03-episode-02> and we'll discuss your answers in the next show.

Rob and Adam

Adam: Hello!

Rob: Hello and thank you for all your fantastic comments & recipes. Comments from almost 50 different countries from Algeria to Vietnam and from Colombia to Kazakhstan. Great to see so many responses. Keep them coming – you can write to us at

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org> or via Facebook – look for 'Elementary Podcasts'.

Adam: We got some great recipes – from Spain, Greece, Kazakhstan, Armenia – we could set up an international restaurant! Both Felix and Eduardo from Spain sent us recipes for Spanish omelette – I might try that. Elmira in Kazakhstan told us how to make a traditional fish dish called '*koktal*' – using carp. Now, British people don't usually eat much carp, but I might try this one.

Rob: For dessert Idoia taught us how to cook rice and milk and if we want a drink then ninamagalhaess in Brazil told us how to make '*caiparinhas*', but they're an alcoholic drink so not for everyone.

Adam: Skybase noticed that Ravi made a mistake. Ravi said that fish and chip shops in Britain serve 250,000 meals a year, but the real number is 250 million meals a year. Well spotted, Skybase!

Rob: Now, if you've listened before you'll remember Carolina. She's from Venezuela and she's a student at Newcastle University in the North-East of England. She lives with her best friend Emily and she's part of the environment society with her boyfriend Jamie. Last time we heard from her, she was going back to Venezuela for the summer. Let's meet her again.

Carolina

Carolina: Hello? Is anyone here?

Emily: Carolina! Hi! Welcome back!

Carolina: Oh hello, Emily! Oh, it's so good to see you.

Emily: You too. How was your summer?

Carolina: Great. And yours?

Emily: Yeah, good.

Carolina: Let me take my suitcase to my room and you know, take my clothes.....

Emily: Unpack, you mean.

Carolina: That's the word ...unpack. You know I think I've forgotten a lot of English in the summer. I've only spoken Spanish. No English at all.

Emily: Don't worry. You'll soon remember. But it's funny, you know – I think your accent is stronger, more Spanish, I mean Venezuelan.

Carolina: Oh, dear.

Emily: No, it's nice. I like your accent. You start unpacking and I'll make a cup of tea.

Carolina: English tea, aaah. Do you know, Emily, I think I've missed English tea? We drink more coffee at home in Venezuela. Just let me unpack my things and I'll see you in the kitchen....

Emily: Hello? Can I come in?

Carolina: Sure.

Emily: Here you are. A nice cup of English tea.

Carolina: Oh, thanks Emily. Mmm. Here, sit down on the bed. Let me move these T-shirts.

Emily: Wow, Carolina, look at all these clothes!

Carolina: I know. I bought quite a lot of things in Venezuela. My parents put some money in my bank account for this year and, I don't know, I went a bit crazy I think. I was so careful with money last year I..., oh I don't know. Anyway, look at these jeans. Cool, huh?

Emily: They're lovely. And I love that dress.

Carolina: Which one? This one?

Emily: Yeah. It's really sexy. You look great in red.

Carolina: Yes, I think I'll wear it the first time I go out with Jamie. He's coming back tomorrow.

Emily: Jamie. That's right. What happened between you two in the end? First of all he didn't phone to say goodbye before you left and you were like "Oooh he didn't phone, oooh it's all over". Then I got an email from you and everything was Jamie this and Jamie that and "Ooooh I'm so happy". What happened?

Carolina: I'm sure I wasn't that bad Emily.

Emily: Well, nearly. Come on, what happened?

Carolina: Well, yes, I was a bit upset when I got the taxi to the station, but then he phoned. Just as I was getting out of the taxi. And he said he was really sorry, but he'd got confused with the days, and he thought I was leaving the next week, so that's why he didn't phone.

Emily: Hmm.

Carolina: 'Hmm' what?

Emily: Just 'hmm'. You know I like Jamie, Carolina, but it's a strange thing to forget – the day your girlfriend goes off to Venezuela for the summer.

Carolina: Anyway, that's what happened. And we've been emailing and texting all holiday and he says he can't wait to see me when he gets back. And "Ooooh I'm so happy".

Emily: Well, I'm glad he phoned and I'm glad you're still together.

Carolina: And what about you? Any news on your love life?

Emily: Love life? What love life?

Carolina: Oh, Emily!

Emily: Seriously, I haven't had a love life since last year, when I went on that study trip to France. Jacques. I really liked him, but then he

didn't... well, I didn't.... I don't know. And that was the last 'man in my life'.

Carolina: You got that Valentine's card.

Emily: Anonymous.

Carolina: So? It shows someone likes you.

Emily: It was from my mother. She feels sorry for me.

Carolina: And you like the man who delivers the pizzas. The one with the long hair.

Emily: Hmm. He says "Here's your pizza" and I say "Thank you very much". A beautiful relationship. We have so much in common!

Carolina: OK. That's enough. Listen, what about dinner? Is there any food in the house? Shall we go out? We could order a pizza. You can answer the door.

Emily: Yeah, I'll wear your new red dress! Ah, it's good to have you back Carolina.

Rob and Adam

Adam: Nice to hear Carolina again. Now, here's an interesting thing. Carolina & Emily hadn't seen each other for a while, a whole summer, and they hugged each other and kissed. I find this interesting because people think the British are quite cold and reserved, so I'm interested in what people do when they meet people or see old friends again. What do you do, Rob?

Rob: When I see old friends again I usually hug them. What do you do when you meet people or see old friends again? Do you hug? Do you kiss? Shake hands? Bow? Write to us and let us know.

Now, do you remember Carolina forgot a word? Listen to this.

Carolina: Let me take my suitcase to my room and you know, take my clothes.....

Emily: Unpack, you mean.

Carolina: That's the word ...unpack.

Adam: When you put your things into a bag, you *pack* your bag, so when you take things out you *unpack*. The **un-** prefix shows an opposite. You *do* something and then maybe later you *undo* it. You might see the word 'undo' on your computer.

Rob: We also use **un-** with adjectives. For example, *happy* – *unhappy*, *usual* – *unusual*. Look out for exercises about this on LearnEnglish. That's all we've got time for today – remember to write to us at <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/> Or on Facebook – look for Elementary Podcasts.

Adam: And you can look for Carolina who will be starting her blog again on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/>. Watch out to see what she writes there and you can write to her too. We'll be back next time and Tess & Ravi will be here again. So, until then...

Both: Bye!