

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 7 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 3: Episode 03

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

- Read all the exercises before you listen to the podcast.
- Look up the words in the exercises that you don't know in a dictionary.
- Play the podcast as many times as you need.
- 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.
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- Play the whole podcast without a break.
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Activity 1 – What did Tess and Ravi say?

- 1) The weather outside the studio is
 - a) good
 - b) bad
 - c) raining
- 2) The British climate is
 - a) extreme
 - b) temperate
 - c) tropical
- 3) British weather
 - a) changes a lot
 - b) is always the same
 - c) is mostly sunny
- 4) British people talk about the weather because
 - a) it's different every day
 - b) it's always bad
 - c) there are many floods
- 5) The British climate is
 - a) only in the winter
 - b) three months in a year
 - c) all the year round

Activity 2 – Match the weather words to the sentences.

It's windy It's snowing It's cloudy
It's sunny It's raining

1. There's no sun today and it might rain soon.
2. It's a fantastic day for the beach.
3. Look! That old lady has lost her hat!
4. Look! The houses are all white. It's beautiful.
5. You'll need an umbrella if you go outside.

Activity 3 – Use these words to complete the sentences.

weather overcast wind
season wet shining
rains dry sunny

It's the monsoon _____ in India in July, so it _____ a lot. It's a very _____ month.

British _____ is very changeable – one minute the sun is _____ and the next minute it's grey and _____ with a cold _____.

My favourite month is August – _____ weather with lots of _____ days.

Activity 4 – Look at the phrases about the weather. Match them with the responses to make small dialogues.

A: Beautiful day, isn't it?
A: Another miserable, grey day.
A: Summer will be here soon!
A: That's an angry sky.
A: Not bad weather for the time of year, is it?
A: Did you hear that rain last night?
A: I hate this drizzle.

B: Yes it's lovely. Not a cloud in the sky.
B: It's a bit depressing, isn't it?
B: Yes, it'll be nice to see the sun.
B: Oh dear. I forgot my umbrella!
B: No, we're very lucky.
B: Yes I did - it was terrible.
B: Me too, it never stops. I prefer rain!

Activity 5 – Leave a comment

Tell us about the climate in your country.

Is it always the same or does it change a lot?
What are the best times of year and the worst?
What temperature do you think is a hot day and what temperature do you think is a cold day?

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

Adam

Adam: Hello and welcome! My name is Adam. Rob is on holiday this week – lucky man! He'll be back for the next episode.

Thanks for your comments – we love hearing from you. It was really interesting to hear how you greet each other. Adilson Santos sent us a great message telling us the different ways to greet people in Brazil. He said that people who are not close friends just say 'hi'. If they are better friends, a girl might hug a boy and kiss his cheek, but boys never kiss each other, they only shake hands and boys who are very good friends might hug quickly. He also said that boys don't really shake hands, they slap their hands together and that at church he kisses men on the cheek and shakes hands with women.

Isn't it interesting how complicated greetings can be!

Langtucoiam from Vietnam said that when meeting an old friend, people will normally shake hands, but again it can be different depending on how close you were, how old your friend is and your friend's sex.

Finally, Hess in the Ivory Coast said that people in his tribe always ask for news when they meet, but they don't bow or shake hands. He said that two people who slept in the same room will even ask what the news is when they wake up in the morning! I found that fascinating.

Do you remember what Tess and Ravi are doing in this series? They are looking at all the things that people think about when they think about Britain. So, what's the topic today? Well, it's something that British people love to talk about. Can you guess what it is?

Tess and Ravi

Ravi: Hi everyone, hi Tess!

Tess: Hi Ravi.

Ravi: Right. I think you know that Tess and I are here to talk about some of the things you think you know about Britain.

Tess: Things like 'drinking tea', 'the royal family' and 'fish and chips' – things you think are very British.

Ravi: And what could be more British than today's weather? It is horrible out there, Tess.

Tess: Is it raining?

Ravi: No, it's not raining but it's grey and cold and miserable and... it's exactly what people said about British weather. We asked our listeners around the world what they think about when they think about Britain and lots of people said 'British weather'

Tess: Do people think the weather here is bad?

Ravi: Well, they think it rains a lot – and it does. They think the summer is wet – and it often is, they say that...

Tess: I don't think British weather is so bad though, do you?

Ravi: I do today.

Tess: It's true that we don't have very hot summers but, you know, we don't have very cold winters either. Britain's got a temperate climate – that means ...

Ravi: A what climate?

Tess: Temperate climate. It means that we don't have extreme weather – we don't have very hot summers or very cold winters. But that also means that the weather is quite changeable – the weather changes quite often.

Ravi: Yeah, it can be raining, then five minutes later it's sunny, then it starts raining again. You never know what the weather is going to be like.

Tess: But that's a good thing, Ravi. I like that. People sometimes say you can have four seasons in one day in Britain and it's true.

Ravi: But how can you decide what clothes to wear, Tess? You don't know if it's going to be cold or hot or what...

Tess: That's typical of you, Ravi. And, because the weather does change quite a lot, that's why British people seem to talk about the weather so much. It's typical small talk, isn't it? The sort of thing you say to people when you're waiting for a bus or something. 'Nice day today' or 'I think it's going to rain later'. That kind of thing.

Ravi: That's true. It's difficult to talk about the weather if the weather's the same every day. We say 'I think it's going to rain later' because it usually is going to rain. It does rain a lot here.

Tess: Well, I don't know. I think it's about the same as other countries in the north of Europe. It's just that we get rain all year round rather than just in one season. Anyway, the rain means that we have beautiful green countryside. Lots of visitors love the countryside because it looks so green – and that's because of the rain.

Ravi: Hmm. You know how I feel about the countryside, Tess, but I suppose it does look nice, if you like that kind of thing.

Tess: Lots of people do. I think the British countryside is beautiful – and so do lots of visitors. And it wouldn't look so green if we didn't have all that rain!

Ravi: Hmm.

Adam

Adam: Mmm, I agree with Tess. I grew up in Scotland and the weather there can be very changeable. You can have hot sun, snow, rain and wind all in one day. People say "If you don't like the weather in Scotland, don't worry - just wait half an hour and it will change!"

Many people love talking about the weather and there are lots of words about it. I think there are a lot more words to describe bad weather than good weather! Perhaps that's because when the weather is good, people are too busy enjoying themselves to discuss it.

If it's dark, you can say that it's a grey day, perhaps because there are lots of clouds covering all the sky – which means that it's overcast. That probably means that the weather is miserable and dull. If there's a very light rain that doesn't stop, then you can say it's drizzly – this sort of rain is called drizzle. If the clouds look like they will rain hard soon, then you can say there is an angry sky.

Oh, it's so much fun complaining about the weather! Now you know why we do it.

Write in and tell us about the climate in your country. Is it always the same or does it change a lot? What are the best times of year and the worst? What temperature do you think is a hot day and what temperature do you think is a cold day?

You can leave your comments on LearnEnglish which is at www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish or on Facebook - we're at 'Elementary Podcasts'. Look out for the next episode with more news about Carolina! Bye!

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 7 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 3: Episode 04

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.
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Activity 1 – Choose all of the sentences that are true about Carolina.

1. She is doing her homework
2. She has a problem
3. She spent a lot of money in the summer
4. She only has £20 a week to spend
5. She is going to ask her parents for money
6. She wants to find a job
7. She has a student visa
8. She can work part-time in Britain

Activity 2 - Here are some sentences with 'look' + particle. Match them to the meanings.

1. Can you **look after** the children while I go to the supermarket?
 2. If your job is so boring then **look for** a new one.
 3. I'm **looking forward to** the party on Saturday. It's going to be fantastic.
 4. Let's **look around** the museum before lunch.
 5. If you can't remember what a word means, **look it up** in a dictionary.
- a. see what there is in a place
 - b. to feel happy because you're going to do something
 - c. to find a piece of information in a book/website
 - d. to take care of someone or something
 - e. to try to find something

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 3 – Use these words to complete the sentences.

forward to after up
around for

1. I need someone to look _____ the dog while we're on holiday.
2. I'm looking _____ my glasses. Have you seen them?
3. I'm looking _____ the holidays. Can't wait!
4. Shall we look _____ the old part of the city tomorrow?
5. Look it _____ on Wikipedia if you don't believe me!

Activity 4 – Use these words to complete the sentences.

a second a minute an hour
a day a week a year

1. I always go to church on Sundays, so that's once _____.
2. My doctor says I should eat five portions of vegetables _____.
3. The speed limit on the motorway is 70 miles _____.
4. The Earth travels around the sun at about 30 kilometres _____.
5. It's a great job and I get 35 days holiday _____.
6. Your heart beats 60-80 times _____.

Activity 5 – Leave a comment

Tell us about your first job. What did you do? How much did you earn and what did you spend your pay on? Was it difficult or enjoyable? How did you get it?

Leave a comment on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-03-episode-04> and we'll discuss your answers in the next podcast.

Adam and Rob

Both: Hello!

Adam: Welcome back, listeners – and welcome back, Rob! How was your holiday?

Rob: It was really nice, Adam, thanks. I went to Slovenia and the weather was fantastic.

Adam: Sounds great. And the comments you sent about the weather in your countries were great too! Many of you have very hot weather. Abuhekmat in Oman told us about weather that reaches 49 degrees! I can't imagine being that hot. Fazliddin12 in Uzbekistan sees temperatures of 45 degrees and Saandari in Mongolia told us about weather that was hot, but not quite as hot as Oman, 35 degrees. The big difference in Mongolia is that in winter it reaches -35 degrees! That's a huge difference between summer and winter.

Rob: That's very cold. Many of you also wrote to us about cold weather in your countries. Kosovac in Serbia says it can be -20 degrees. ValiantSpirit in Pakistan says it can -15 degrees. But what is cold? In other countries, maybe it's a bit different. In El Salvador, Daxrosales says 15 degrees is a cold day, while in Malaysia, Shokmin says 24 degrees is a cold day. You also told us about other weather conditions in your countries. For example, in China Diqiudashi told us about the typhoons that come to the mainland and bring heavy storms.

Adam: Tkazerooni in Iran told us about weather called 'Wolf & Ewe'. (A ewe is a female sheep.) 'Wolf & Ewe' weather is when dark clouds and white clouds are in the sky at the same time. The 'wolf' (the dark clouds) chases the 'ewe' (the white clouds) and Iranians say that this is very changeable weather, with a very high chance of rain. Remember, you can write to us at www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish or via Facebook – look for 'Elementary Podcasts'.

Rob: Now, do you remember what happened last time with Carolina, the student from

Venezuela at Newcastle University? She returned from her summer holiday and talked with Emily about her new clothes, about missing English and, of course, about her boyfriend Jamie. Let's see what's happening this time!

Carolina

Carolina: Let me see. Oh, dear. No, that's not right. Emily, what's seventy times twelve?

Emily: What?

Carolina: What's seventy times twelve?

Emily: Err, ten times seventy is seven hundred and two times seventy is a hundred and forty, so that makes erm, eight hundred and forty.

Carolina: What's seventy divided by fifty-two?

Emily: I don't know! I'm trying to read my book! Haven't you got a calculator on your phone?

Carolina: Oh, yes. Oooh. Oh, dear!

Emily: What's the matter, Carolina?

Carolina: Nothing.

Emily: It doesn't sound like nothing. I can't read my book with your *{big sigh}* and *{big sigh}*. What's the problem?

Carolina: Well, I'm trying to work out my money. My money for the year.

Emily: Your money for the year. Mmm...

Carolina: And it's not very good.

Emily: It's not very good?

Carolina: Well, I haven't got enough.

Emily: You haven't got enough?

Carolina: Stop repeating everything I say!

Emily: Sorry.

Carolina: I don't know what I'm going to do.

Emily: Well, you did spend a lot of money in the summer, didn't you? You bought a lot of clothes and things.

Carolina: Yes. I did. And presents for my family and friends in Venezuela.

Emily: Oh dear. So, how bad is it?

Carolina: A disaster. After I've paid my rent for this room and the electricity and water, and my phone, and my travel card, well - there isn't very much left.

Emily: How much?

Carolina: About twenty pounds a week.

Emily: Twenty pounds a week!

Carolina: You're doing it again.

Emily: Sorry. But twenty pounds a week - you can't live on that. You have to buy food and books...

Carolina: And go out sometimes.

Emily: Can you ask your parents for some money?

Carolina: Oh, no. They've already given me a lot. I can't do that.

Emily: What about...

{doorbell}

Carolina: I'll go. It's probably Jamie.

Carolina: It's so good to see you.

Jamie: It's good to see you too. You been OK? Oh, hi Emily!

Emily: Hi Jamie. How's it going?

Jamie: Good, thanks. And you?

Emily: Yep.

Carolina: I'm going to get a job.

Emily and Jamie: Get a job?

Carolina: Now you're both doing it. I have to do something, Jamie. I can't live on the money that I've got for this year.

Jamie: Are you allowed to work here? Don't you need a special visa?

Carolina: No, I can work on my student visa - part-time. I'll check but I think I can work up to 20 hours a week.

Jamie: I'm not sure about this. You need time to study. And to go out and enjoy yourself - with me.

Carolina: I can't go out and enjoy myself if I haven't got any money, can I?

Jamie: I've got some money, I can pay.

Carolina: That's it. I've decided. Tomorrow morning I'm going to start looking for a job.

Adam and Rob

Adam: Oh, dear. I hope Carolina manages to find a job or some other way to get more money.

Rob: It will be a lot easier for her if she has some experience, if she has done a job before. What was your first job, Adam?

Adam: I worked as a paperboy. That means I delivered newspapers to people's houses early in the morning. It was quite interesting, although I didn't have time to read anything more than the headlines. The real problem came when it was raining. What about you?

Rob: I worked as a waiter in a restaurant. It was quite hard work, but I didn't earn a lot of money, unfortunately. Tell us about your first job. What did you do? Remember, you can write to us at www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish or via Facebook – look for 'Elementary Podcasts'.

Adam: Now, do you notice anything about these sentences? Have a listen:

Emily: How much?

Carolina: About twenty pounds a week.

Emily: Twenty pounds a week!

Carolina: You're doing it again!

Jamie: Are you allowed to work here? Don't you need a special visa?

Carolina: No, I can work on my student visa - part-time. I'll check but I think I can work up to 20 hours a week.

Rob: Carolina says she has about twenty pounds a week. She also says she thinks she can work up to twenty hours a week. 'A week' means 'every week'. We use 'a' and 'an' with other words, too. For example, 'hour'. I earned *three pounds an hour* when I was a waiter.

Adam: And I see my family *three or four times a year*. There will be some exercises about this and other language areas on LearnEnglish. That's all we've got time for today – remember to write to us and tell us about your first job at LearnEnglish or on Facebook.

Rob: We'll be back next time with Tess & Ravi. So, until then...

Adam and Rob: Bye!

B1 ENGLISH

CHAPTER 7 Lesson 1

Podcasts Series 3: Episode 05

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Making it harder

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Activity 1 - Choose all the sentences that are true.

1. Ravi likes football.
2. Tess knows a lot about football.
3. Ravi is a football hooligan.
4. There were problems with hooligans in England in the past.
5. Most English football fans are hooligans.
6. Football matches in Britain are dangerous.
7. Women go to football matches in Britain.

8. Children go to football matches in Britain.
9. Ravi is going to take Tess to a football match.

Activity 2 - Choose the best answer

1. You go to watch football in a...
 - a) stadium
 - b) arena
 - c) hall
2. When a player puts the ball into the net, it's a...
 - a) hit
 - b) goal
 - c) point
3. A game of football is often called a...
 - a) contest
 - b) match
 - c) fight
4. People who are violent and cause trouble at football games are called...
 - a) vandals
 - b) devils
 - c) hooligans
5. People who like football are....
 - a) fans
 - b) followers
 - c) watchers
6. Before you can watch the game, you need to buy a...
 - a) ticket
 - b) paper
 - c) card
7. The person in control of a football game is the...
 - a) umpire
 - b) manager
 - c) referee

Answers are at the bottom of this support pack.

8. The green place in the middle of the stadium is the...
 - a) court
 - b) pitch
 - c) arena
9. There are eleven players in a football...
 - a) team
 - b) group
 - c) gang
10. All of the people watching a football game is called the...
 - a) public
 - b) audience
 - c) crowd

Activity 3 - Put the words in the spaces

fans	goals	match
pitch	referee	stadium
team	tickets	

1. Are you going to see the _____ tomorrow? I think it'll be a good one.
2. I've got two _____ for Saturday. Do you want to come?
3. They built a new _____ last year – it's beautiful.
4. People always get angry with the _____ – but it isn't an easy job.
5. How many _____ did they get in the last game? Was it two or three?
6. Some people ran onto the _____ at the end of the game.
7. My friend travels all over the world to see his _____ play.
8. The _____ were all singing and cheering – it was a great atmosphere.

Activity 4 - Match the people to what they do

referee
 football player
 football fan

blows the whistle
 buys a ticket
 gives a penalty
 kicks the ball
 scores a goal
 shows a red card
 supports a team
 tackles someone
 watches the game

Activity 5 - Complete the sentences with these phrases

- a. bigger and bigger.
- b. less and less time.
- c. longer and longer
- d. more and more difficult.
- e. more and more every day!
- f. worse and worse.

1. I've got so much work to do! – every day I seem to have ____
2. We've been married for forty years, and I love her ____
3. My class gets new students every week. It just keeps getting ____
4. It's so depressing - the economic situation seems to get ____
5. Because of modern medicine old people are now living ____
6. As you go through the book, the exercises get ____

Activity 5 – Leave a comment

Tell us something about football. Which team do you support? Why? What do football fans do in your country? What happens at football matches?

If you don't like football, tell us why not?

Send us your comments and we'll discuss your answers in the next podcast.

Rob: Hello and welcome. It's just me this week. Adam's on holiday – lucky him. But don't worry – he'll be back next time.

Now, thank you for writing with your stories about your first job. I loved them. I think they're the best we've had so far. And it's really interesting to find out more about you. And what an educated lot of people you are too. We've got dentists like Lella in Lebanon, and some teachers like Sirjoe and Angesca in Italy. And Ali Reza and TKazerooni in Iran are teachers too.

And so many different stories as well. I liked Rasa's story of using the first money she earned in Lithuania to go and see the sea. And Mac in Hong Kong gave his first salary to his mum. And do you know what, Mac? That's exactly what I did too.

So thanks again for your answers. I hope we hear as many interesting stories this time. Remember, you can write to us at the website: www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish - and on Facebook - look for Elementary podcasts.

Now it's time to listen to Tess and Ravi. They're talking about something British, as usual. But this time, it's not such good news.

Ravi

Hello again from me, Ravi

Tess

And from me, Tess. We're here again to talk about some of the things you think you know about Britain.

Ravi

Things like 'drinking tea' and 'fish and chips' – but not everything you think about Britain is nice and positive and today we're going

to talk about something lots of you mentioned – football hooligans.

Tess

You're a football fan, Ravi. Are you a football hooligan?

Ravi

You know, Tess, people often ask me that – people from other countries I mean.

Tess

You, a hooligan? I don't think so.

Ravi

I know, I know. But people sometimes think that being a football fan in England means you must be a hooligan – fighting and causing trouble and stuff.

Tess

That's a bit strange. Why do they think that?

Ravi

Well, there was a problem here – about thirty years ago – in the nineteen seventies and nineteen eighties there was a lot of trouble and fighting and stuff. There were a couple of really bad incidents that were in the news all over the world – that's why people sometimes think – 'Ah, English football – hooligans'. But for the last twenty years or so - it really isn't a problem.

Tess

So why do people still think that English football fans are hooligans? {laughs} I really can't imagine anyone thinking of you as a football hooligan, Ravi.

Ravi

Alright, Tess, you've already said that. I guess when you've got a bad reputation – like English football fans – it's difficult to change people's minds.

Tess

So it isn't dangerous to go to a football match?

Ravi

Come on, Tess, you know it isn't. You should go to a game. There are lots of women and children at matches and the new football stadiums are great – comfortable seats, great views, good food – it's nothing like it was twenty years ago. It's a family thing these days.

Tess

But most fans at the stadium are men, aren't they?

Ravi

Yeah, most of the fans are men but about twenty per cent are women.

Tess

How do you know that?

Ravi

I looked it up on the internet. More and more women are going to football matches. I sometimes take my niece.

Tess

Ah, that's nice. How old is she?

Ravi

She's nine. She's really into football – loves it.

Tess

Ah. So there's never any sort of crowd trouble or anything? Don't they have a lot of police at football matches?

Ravi

Not really, not these days. I don't think you can say there's no trouble at all but not in the stadium – I always feel perfectly safe there. Why don't you come to a match with me? I'll try to get tickets for the game next Saturday. What do you say?

Tess

Well ... yeah, OK, why not? I don't know anything about football though.

Ravi

That's OK.

Tess

And ... well, what if people think you're a hooligan, Ravi?

Ravi

Stop it.

Rob:

So, what do you think? Did you think English football fans are hooligans? Like Ravi, I'm a football fan. And people often ask me if all football fans in England are hooligans. And of course, my answer is "They're not."

English football seems to be really popular all over the world. My team are Aston Villa and they're probably not as famous as some other teams in England like Manchester United or Chelsea or Liverpool. How about football teams in your country? Do you support a team? Let us know which one. And tell us about football fans in your country too. What do they do?

And if you don't like football – and I know a lot of people don't – write and tell us why not. Remember you can write to us at www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish and on Facebook. Look for Elementary Podcasts.

Before I go, a quick word about some of the things Tess and Ravi talked about when they talked about football. Ravi talked about stadiums – the places where football matches are played. We talk about a football match between two teams. I'm sure you know more football words like score a goal for example. In fact, the British Council has a website all about football and English.

It's called Premier Skills. I'll give you the address for that. It's

www.britishcouncil.org/premierskills.