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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-03>

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 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	
you should...	I do it /every day/every week/ once a week/twice a day...	
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

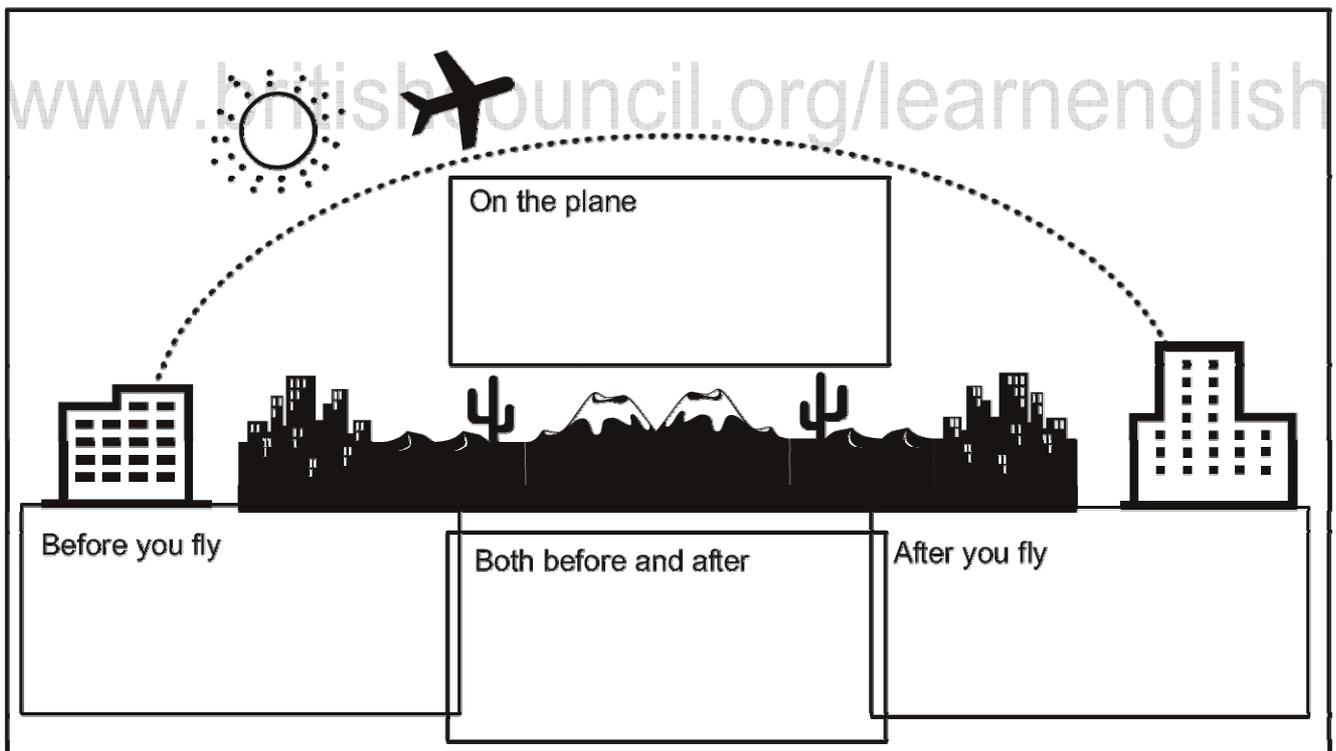
- You need to look at the _____ to see what time your flight is leaving, and which gate to go to.
- You can use a _____ if your luggage is very heavy and you don't want to carry it.
- You have to show your _____ before you get on the plane
- You have to fasten your _____ when you take-off and when you 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

- Mary: Hello Carolina. It's lovely to meet you.
Carolina: Hello. _____
- 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.
- Mary: And you're in this room Carolina.
Carolina: _____. I love the colour. And what pretty curtains too.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Carolina: _____
Mary: Well thank you. It's nothing grand but we like it.
- 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

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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