

Elementary Podcasts Series 4 Episode 5

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

Exercises

Answers are at the end of this support pack.

Activity 1

Choose all the sentences that are true according to the podcast.

1. A lot of people think the British are cold and unfriendly.
2. Tess thinks Americans are friendlier than British people.
3. People in London don't usually speak to people on the train.
4. Tess and Ravi agree that people in the north are friendlier.
5. Tess always invites her work colleagues to dinner.
6. Tess worked in Italy for two years.
7. Tess and Ravi's parents didn't invite friends to their houses.
8. The British generally prefer houses to flats.

Activity 2

Put the words in order to make sentences from the podcast.

1. Friends / British people / It's / make / with / difficult to
2. the same / much more / open / speak / they're / They / language but
3. speak / on / people / never / the train/ British
4. parts / different / country / People are / of the / in other

5. friendly / but nothing / They / to her / else / were/ at work
6. like / flats / the British / why / That's / don't
7. take / with someone / We / to get / real friends / a long time / to be
8. a very long / working / We've / time now / been / together for

Activity 3

Match the adjectives to the definitions. If you are:

- a) arrogant
- b) fun-loving
- c) honest
- d) lazy
- e) loud
- f) narrow-minded
- g) patient
- h) pessimistic
- i) rude
- j) sociable

1. You always think that bad things are going to happen.
2. You don't like working or being active.
3. You like to have a good time and laugh a lot.
4. You don't show respect for other people and behave badly.
5. You talk a lot and make a lot of noise.
6. You tell the truth and don't try to cheat people.

7. You don't get angry, and stay calm in difficult situations.
8. You like being with people and doing things together.
9. You don't want to consider new ideas or opinions.
10. You believe you're better or more important than other people.

Activity 4

Match the adjectives to their opposites.

- a) hard-working
- b) modest
- c) open
- d) open-minded
- e) optimistic
- f) polite
- g) quiet
- h) serious
- i) warm

1. arrogant
2. pessimistic
3. lazy
4. cold
5. rude
6. fun-loving
7. reserved
8. loud
9. narrow-minded

Activity 5

Negative prefixes. Make these adjectives negative. Use 'un', 'dis' or 'im'.

1. friendly
 friendly
2. organised
 organised
3. helpful
 helpful
4. patient
 patient
5. honest
 honest
6. sociable
 sociable

Activity 6

Put the words in the right spaces.

- a) boss
- b) classmates
- c) colleagues
- d) flatmate
- e) neighbours
- f) relatives
- g) stranger

1. The people who live in the houses or flats next to me are my _____.
2. The people that I work with are my _____.

3. The person that I share a flat with is my _____.
4. The people that I have lessons with are my _____.
5. The person who tells me what to do at work is my _____.
6. All of the people in my family are my _____.
7. A person that I've never met before is a _____.

Activity 7

Put the words in order to make some well-known English phrases about 'home'.

1. where / is / Home / is / the heart
2. is / home / castle / An Englishman's / his
3. begins / home / Charity / at
4. no / like / place / There's / home
5. glass houses / stones / People / who / shouldn't throw / live in
6. yourself / Come / make / at home/ in and
7. a home / away / It's / from home
8. houses / homes / make / Men build / but women

Activity 8

Can you remember the missing words?
Don't look back at Activity 7!

1. Home is where the _____ is.
2. An Englishman's home is his _____.

3. _____ begins at home.
4. There's no _____ like home.
5. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw _____.
6. Come in and _____ yourself at home!
7. It's a home _____ from home.
8. Men _____ houses but women make homes.

Activity 9 – Leave a comment

What do you think – are the British reserved? Are the British more reserved than other nationalities? What do people say about people from your country? Do they think you're friendly – and is it true? Write and tell us – we always look forward to hearing from you.

Leave a comment

on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-04-episode-05> and we'll discuss your answers in the next podcast.

Answers

Activity 1

True: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8

False: 4, 5, 6,

Activity 2

9. It's difficult to make friends with British people.
10. They speak the same language but they're much more open.
11. British people never speak on the train.
12. People are different in other parts of the country.
13. They were friendly to her at work, but nothing else.
14. That's why the British don't like flats.
15. We take a long time to get to be *real* friends with someone.
16. We've been working together for a very long time now.

Activity 3

- 1.h, 2.d, 3.b, 4.i, 5.e, 6.c, 7.g, 8.j, 9.f, 10.a

Activity 4

1.b, 2.e, 3.a, 4.i, 5.f, 6.h, 7.c, 8.g, 9.d

Activity 5

1.un, 2.dis, 3.un, 4.im, 5.dis, 6.un

Activity 6

1.e, 2.c, 3.d, 4.b, 5.a, 6.f, 7.g

Activity 7

1. Home is where the heart is.
2. An Englishman's home is his castle.
3. Charity begins at home.
4. There's no place like home.
5. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
6. Come in and make yourself at home.
7. It's a home away from home.
8. Men build houses but women make homes.

Activity 8

1.heart, 2.castle, 3.Charity, 4.place, 5.stones, 6.make, 7.away, 8.build