

Elementary Podcasts Series 4 Episode 6

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 of the sentences that are true according to the podcast.

1. Carolina and Jamie are cooking a meal together.
2. They're making mashed potatoes and salad.
3. Jamie is angry with Carolina.
4. Carolina has already told Emily about Cameron and the other woman.
5. Emily is coming to dinner tonight.
6. Jamie's band has a concert on Saturday.
7. Jamie wants Cameron to leave the band.
8. Carolina isn't going to the concert.

Activity 2

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

1. why you're / angry with / don't / I / know / me
2. me / you / What / want / to do? / did
3. about this / fight / want / I / to / don't / any more
4. parents for / home to / She / went / her / the weekend
5. Cameron / never / I / want / again / see / to

6. to go / know if / I / don't / I want / concert/ to the
7. with you / ask Alice / can / to / days / You / swap
8. as / Don't / work / excuse / use / an

Activity 3

Match the questions and the responses from the podcast.

- a) Here you are.
- b) In the shopping bag.
- c) It's in the cupboard.
- d) Mashed.
- e) Oil and lemon, please.
- f) Sure.
- g) Yes, please.
- h) Yes, they're in the fridge.

1. Where are the potatoes?
2. Can you pass me that knife?
3. How do you want these potatoes?
4. Where's the salt?
5. Do you want tomatoes in this salad?
6. Can you get them out of the fridge?
7. What do you want on the salad?
8. Have you got any lemons?

Activity 4

Complete the questions. Don't look back at activity 3!

1. _____ the potatoes? In the shopping bag.

2. _____ pass me that knife? Here you are.
3. _____ you want these potatoes? Mashed.
4. _____ the salt? It's in the cupboard.
5. _____ want tomatoes in this salad? Yes, please.
6. _____ get them out of the fridge? Sure.
7. _____ you want on the salad? Oil and lemon, please.
8. _____ got any lemons? Yes, they're in the fridge.

Activity 5

Ways of cooking potatoes. Match the name to the description.

- a) baked potatoes
 - b) boiled potatoes
 - c) fried potatoes
 - d) mashed potatoes
 - e) roast potatoes
1. You cut the potatoes into slices or strips and you cook them in hot oil. The British call them chips.
 2. You cook the potatoes in water until they're soft. You can eat them hot, or use them in salads or other recipes.
 3. You cook the potatoes and then you add butter and milk and make a thick paste.

4. You cut the potatoes into big pieces. Then you put them in a hot oven with oil. The British eat them with turkey on Christmas Day.
5. You can wrap the potatoes in aluminium foil and put them on the barbecue or you can put them in the oven – with no oil. You can eat them with butter or cheese.

Activity 6

Put the recipe in order.

Perfect Mashed Potatoes

- a) Add hot butter and milk to potato cubes.
- b) Taste and add salt and pepper if needed. Enjoy!
- c) Drain potatoes. Keep hot.
- d) Heat ½ cup of milk with some butter.
- e) Let potatoes cook for 20 minutes until soft.
- f) Mash with a potato masher or a fork until smooth.
- g) Peel potatoes and cut into cubes.
- h) Put potatoes into a big pot of salted water. Bring to the boil.

Activity 7

Past continuous. Put the verbs in the right spaces.

- a) was driving
- b) were they doing
- c) was teaching
- d) was I doing
- e) were you doing
- f) wasn't listening

- g) were living
- h) was working
- i) were carrying
- j) was watching
- k) was listening
- l) were playing
- m) weren't talking

1. A: I saw you yesterday in the street.
B: Really? What _____?
A: You _____ three big bags of shopping.
B: So why didn't you help me?
A: I was in my car – I _____.
2. A: I phoned you at ten o'clock but you didn't answer. What _____?
B: Really? I didn't hear the phone. I _____ to music – very loud!
3. A: Did you hear what I just said to you?
B: Huh? Sorry, I _____. I _____ the football.
4. A: How long have you been friends with Mila?
B: We met in 1995 when we _____ in Dubai. She _____ English and I _____ for an engineering company.
5. A: The kids broke the neighbour's window yesterday.
B: Oh no! How? What _____?
A: They _____ football.
6. A: Was the meeting interesting?

B: No. I left early. They _____
about anything important.

Activity 8

Past continuous. Can you remember the right forms of the verbs? Don't look back at Activity 7!

1. A: I saw you yesterday in the street.

B: Really? What _____ (I/do)?

A: You _____ (carry) three big bags of shopping.

B: So why didn't you help me?

A: I was in my car – I _____
(drive).

2. A: I phoned you at ten o'clock but you didn't answer. What _____
(you/do)?

B: Really? I didn't hear the phone. I _____
(listen) to music – very loud!

3. A: Did you hear what I just said to you?

B: Huh? Sorry, I _____
(not/listen). I _____ (watch)
the football.

4. A: How long have you been friends with Mila?

B: We met in 1995 when we _____
(live) in Dubai. She _____
(teach) English and I _____
(work) for an engineering company.

5. A: The kids broke the neighbour's window yesterday.

B: Oh no! What _____
(they/do)?

A: They _____ (play) football.

6. A: Was the meeting interesting?

B: No. I left early. They _____
(not/talk) about anything important.

Activity 9 – Leave a comment

And what about you? Do you cook at home? Or do you eat in a canteen, or buy something to eat on the way home? Write and tell us.

And Jo would like to know your favourite way of eating potatoes!

Leave a comment

on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-04-episode-06>

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

Answers

Activity 1

True: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6,

False: 5, 7, 8

Activity 2

1. I don't know why you're angry with me.
2. What did you want me to do?
3. I don't want to fight about this anymore.
4. She went home to her parents for the weekend.
5. I never want to see Cameron again.
6. I don't know if I want to go to the concert.
7. You can ask Alice to swap days with you.
8. Don't use work as an excuse.

Activity 3

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

Activity 4

1. Where are, 2. Can you/Could you, 3. How do, 4. Where's/Where is, 5. Do you, 6. Can you, 7. What do, 8. Have you

Activity 5

1.c, 2.b, 3.d, 4.e, 5.a

Activity 6

g, h, e, c, d, a, f, b

Activity 7

1.d, i, a, 2.e, k, 3.f, j, 4.g, c, h, 5.b, l, 6.m

Activity 8

1. was I doing, were carrying, was driving, 2. were you doing, was listening, 3. wasn't listening, was watching, 4. were living, was teaching, was working, 5. were they doing, were playing, 6. weren't talking