

## 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-01>

## While you listen

While you listen, read and answer the questions below.

Remember there may be more than one correct answer.

### Section 1

1. Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick all the phrases you think are true. There may be more than one right answer.

- a) It's Tess's birthday
- b) Tess is going to a French restaurant tonight
- c) Tess is going to buy a pair of boots
- d) Ravi gives Tess a present for her birthday

### Section 2

2. What do they say about knitting? Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Ravi likes knitting
- b) Knitting is popular nowadays
- c) Esther isn't sure about the history of knitting
- d) A lot of men knitted in the nineteenth century

### Section 3

3. Listen to Mark doing the quiz. Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) Mark lives and works in Nottingham
- b) The answers to the quiz are all people
- c) Mark gets nine answers right
- d) Ravi promises to send Mark a present

### Section 4

4. How many people say that their favourite food is Italian? Tick the right number.

- a) Four
- b) Three
- c) Two
- d) One

### Section 5

5. Listen to Carolina and Jamie. Tick all the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Carolina wants to buy a new pair of boots
- b) Carolina and Jamie go to three different shoe shops
- c) Carolina is a British size five for shoes
- d) Jamie enjoyed shopping for shoes with Carolina

6. What colour shoes does Carolina buy? Tick the right colour.

- a) red
- b) brown
- c) grey
- d) black

### Section 6

7. Listen to Tess and Ravi. Tick the phrases you think are true. Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Gordon is going to tell a joke in the next podcast
- b) Ravi gives Tess a book for her birthday
- c) Tess likes cooking
- d) Tess doesn't like the present very much

## Section 1: "It's Tess's birthday today...!"

### Useful phrases

A: When's your birthday?  
 B: In March. It's the 15th, actually.  
 A: Oh, so what sign is that?  
 B: Pisces, actually.

### Frequent joke

A: It's my birthday today  
 B: Happy Birthday! [Gives friend a kiss]  
 A: Thank you. Yes, 21 again!  
 B: And you don't look a day over 20!

### Joke explained...

*In this joke, A says "21 again". This means "I am 21 years old – again", because it means she always says she is 21*

*B joins in the joke by saying A looks young.*

*For example, if someone says that are 30, you can say 'You don't look a day over 25' (no older than 25).*

*But here B plays a joke: because A said '21', B says 'a day over 20' – in other words, she looks exactly as old as she says she is.*

### Congratulating people on their birthdays

*Ravi: it's Tess's birthday today, isn't it?*

*Tess: Yeah, it is.*

*Ravi: Happy birthday!*

*{sound of kiss on the cheek}*

*Tess: Thank you.*

*Ravi: Are you doing anything special?*

*Tess: Well, I'm going out for dinner with some friends tonight and then we might go to a club.*

*I'm not really sure.*

*Ravi: Sounds good. Where are you going to eat? Is it somewhere a bit special or ... {leaves question hanging}*

*Tess: Yeah, it's a French place. I've heard it's really good but I haven't been there.*

*Ravi: I'm sure it'll be great. {pause} Any good presents?*

*Tess: Well, I got some money from my mum and dad to buy myself something nice so I'm going to get some new boots with that. And that's it, so far ....*

*Ravi: Well, I'll get you a coffee when we finish here, OK?*

*Tess: OK. And a cake?*

*Ravi: Oh go on then. A small one.*

### What to say when someone says:

*It's Gilly's birthday today!*

The conversation		Notes
A	It's Gilly's birthday today!	Someone tells you it's (Gilly's) birthday
B	Oh, is it? I'm sorry – I didn't know.	1) Apologise and say you didn't know
	Many Happy Returns!	2) Formally congratulate them: say either: <i>Many happy returns!</i> (this phrase is <b>only</b> used for birthdays) or <i>Congratulations!</i> (you can use this for passing exams, engagements, etc.)
	What are you doing to celebrate?	Ask what their plans are (but don't expect to be invited!)

	Are you going anywhere nice/special? <b>or</b> Have you got any special plans?	
A	Well, I'm going out for dinner with some friends tonight	They tell you their plans
B	Oh? Anywhere special?	You show interest and ask another question.  See "Plans for the weekend"
Note: from now, this conversation follows the structure for " <b>Plans for the weekend</b> " <b>See Series 1 Podcast 09, Section 1 - Exercise 1.</b>		

### What to say when:

#### ***Giving and receiving a present***

In social terms, when a child becomes an adult, they stop wanting to have presents on their birthdays. This, of course, is not true!

But it does mean that we have to pretend that we don't want presents, and when we give them, we have to make them look not very important.

The following may help you to give and receive a present in the UK. A is the 'Giver' who gives the present; today is B's birthday.

The conversation		Notes
A	Hey, I've got a little surprise for you.	Notice how we make the present look small. We say: 'It's just a little something I thought you would like', or 'It's not much, but I thought you'd like it'
B	Really?	Very important to act surprised!
A	Here you are. Happy birthday.	Give the present and say the formal words, either 'Happy Birthday' or 'Many Happy Returns'
B	Oh thank you!  Oh, you shouldn't have.  What is it?	<b>First</b> , thank the giver  <b>Second</b> , say that the gift was unnecessary. B wasn't expecting a present.  <b>Third</b> , ask what is inside the present. We always do this, asking 'What is it?' or 'What can it be?' 'What on earth could it be?', etc.
A	Well open it and see.	The giver tells B (or gives B permission?) to open it
B	{ <i>sound of present being opened</i> }	<i>In the UK, most people give presents wrapped in special paper. Some people tear the paper open, others open it very carefully, trying not to tear the paper. What sort of</i>

		<i>person are you?</i>
B	Oh look! It's a camera! Oh thank you very much, [Jamie]. That's fantastic/lovely/really great/etc.	1) B makes a noise of appreciation: Ohh! Gosh! 2) B names the present: "It's a camera ... " 3) B says "Thank you" and uses the giver's name 4) B says how nice the present is
A	Oh, good.  You haven't already got one, have you?	A is happy they bought the right thing: they often say: "I'm glad you like it..." A may ask if B has already got the same gift
B	No, no I haven't.	B must say they haven't got one (even if they already <i>have</i> got one!)
A	Good! Well, I thought you'd like it because...[explain reason for choosing]	A explains why they chose it: "I bought it because I know you like..."
B	Oh, yes, [explain why it is a good choice]. It's a lovely present. Thank you. Come here. { <i>sound of a kiss</i> }	1) B confirms A's choice and reason. 2) B says they like it again 3) B says thank you again 4) B gives A a kiss (if appropriate)

### Section 1, Exercise 1:

Tess and Ravi have a conversation just like this in the podcast. Here is their conversation, but the lines are in the wrong order. Can you put them in the right order? Use the table above to help you.

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

Order	Line	Order	Line	Order	Line	Order	Line
1st		4th		7th		10th	
2nd		5th		8th		11th	
3rd		6th		9th		12th	

Line	What they said
A	<i>Ravi:</i> Here you are. Happy birthday.
B	{ <i>sound of present being opened</i> }
C	<i>Tess:</i> It's a lovely present. Thank you.
D	<i>Ravi:</i> Well open it and see.
E	<i>Ravi:</i> Well, I thought French food was your favourite, but now...
F	<i>Tess:</i> { <i>suspiciously</i> } Really?
G	<i>Tess:</i> A French cookery book!
H	<i>Ravi:</i> Hey Tess, I've got a little surprise for you.
I	<i>Tess:</i> Come here. { <i>sound of a kiss</i> }
J	<i>Tess:</i> Thank you Ravi. That's really great.
K	<i>Tess:</i> Oh thank you! { <i>pause</i> } What is it?
L	<i>Tess:</i> Oh, silly, I love French food – and I love cooking.

## Section 2 – Would like to talk about

In this section, you heard Esther talking about her hobby – knitting. Do you have a hobby that you would like to tell us about? Write a paragraph about your hobby and then, if you want, you can send your paragraph to [learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org](mailto:learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org).

Here are some ideas and phrases to help you. Of course, these are only ideas – you can write anything that you want!

### Ideas and phrases to help you

I'd like/ I'm going to talk / write /tell you about ....

My hobby is ....

I like / enjoy... ....knitting/collecting postcards/painting/making models/ etc\*

\*NB – Notice that the verbs all end with 'ing'.

[.....] is/isn't (very) popular/fashionable/unusual/common

(Quite) a lot of people/not very many people [.....]

I started [.....] when I was (fifteen/a child/a teenager) / in (1995) / a long time ago/ a few years ago/ etc etc

One thing I really like about [.....] is .....

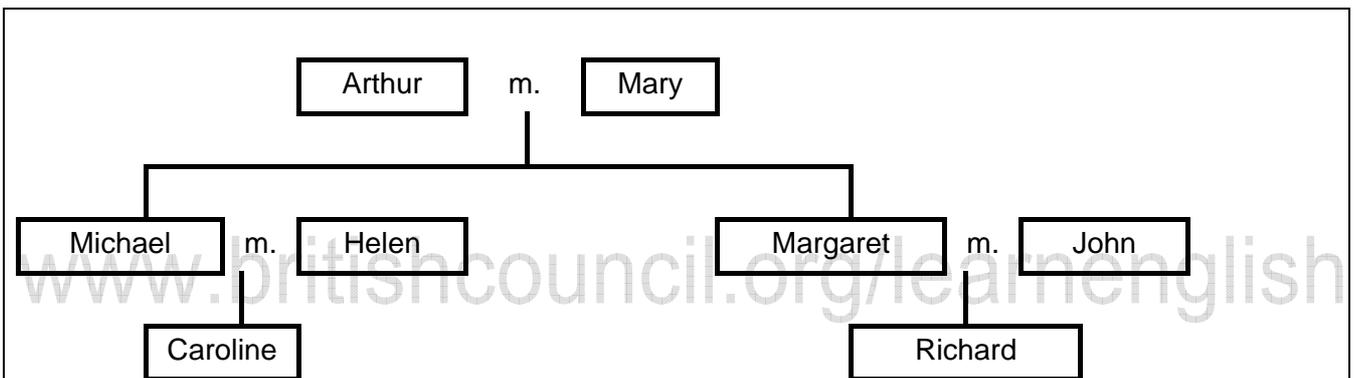
If you [.....] then you can .....

[.....] started a long time ago/in the 1960s/hundreds of years ago/recently/ etc etc

[.....] is easy/difficult/exciting/interesting/relaxing/good fun/ etc .... because...

Now put your ideas together to write a paragraph. If you want, you can send your paragraph to [learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org](mailto:learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org). You can download and read the transcript if you need more ideas or help.

**Section 3 – Quiz**



**Section 3 , Exercise 1: Quiz**

The quiz this time was about people in your life, including members of the family. Look at this family tree. Can you put the words in the box in the right spaces in the sentences?

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

son	son-in-law	grandfather	brother
cousin	daughter-in-law	granddaughter	uncle
father-in-law	husband	grandson	aunt
mother-in-law	daughter	mother	nephew
sister-in-law	wife	father	niece
brother in law	grandmother	sister	

1	Arthur is Caroline's .....	13	Margaret is Michael's
2	Arthur is Helen's	14	Margaret is Richard's
3	Mary is Caroline's	15	John is Arthur's
4	Mary is Helen's	16	John is Michael's
5	Michael is Helen's	17	Richard is Mary's
6	Michael is Caroline's	18	Richard is Caroline's
7	Michael is Richard's	19	Richard is Michael's
8	Michael is Margaret's	20	Richard is Margaret's
9	Helen is Michael's	21	Caroline is Michael's
10	Helen is Mary's	22	Caroline is Arthur's
11	Helen is Margaret's	23	Caroline is Margaret's
12	Helen is Richard's		

## Section 4 – Your turn

In 'Your Turn' this time the question was 'Which country's food is your favourite? And, of course, why?'

What about you? Do you agree with what any of the people said in the podcast? Is your favourite food Italian, Vietnamese, Thai, French, Indian, Chinese, Mexican? Or maybe even British! Or is it the food from your own country? We'd like you to write to us and tell us *your* opinion.

Send it to [learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org](mailto:learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org), and we'll put the best ones on the website.

### Here are some ideas to help you:

- you can talk about your general feelings about the food: It's delicious, it's tasty, it's simple, it's complicated, there's a lot of variety (a lot of different things to eat), it's healthy (good for you), it's spicy...
- you can talk about the things that you like best: vegetables, salad, meat, fish, seafood, fruit, rice, beans, cakes, puddings, soups, bread, cheese, eggs...
- you can talk about the ingredients of the food: herbs, spices, oil, fresh/natural ingredients, sauces...
- you can talk about the way that things are cooked: fried (cooked in oil), boiled (cooked in water), roast (cooked in the oven with oil), raw (not cooked) ...
- you can talk about the drinks of the country too: fruit juices, milk drinks, beer, wine, tea, coffee...

## Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1

Look at these conversations between Carolina and Jamie when Carolina is buying some shoes. Put the expressions in the right places. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

And they're too high	Have you got these in a size 5?	Now these are nice
How much are they?	So which ones do you like best?	The red ones
I'll take these please	Yes, I think I'll get the black ones	Try them on

1	<p>Carolina: They're nice.</p> <p>Jamie: Which ones? Those boots?</p> <p>Carolina: No, those shoes at the back. _____ . Let's go in and have a look.</p>
2	<p>Carolina: Five and a half. What does that mean? I'm a thirty-six in Venezuela.</p> <p>Jamie: Yeah, British sizes are different. _____ . See if they fit.</p>
3	<p>Jamie: What about these red ones?</p> <p>Carolina: They're horrible! _____. I can't wear very high heels – I can't walk.</p>
4	<p>Jamie: These black ones then. They're a size 5.</p> <p>Carolina: Mmm. They're quite nice. _____</p> <p>Jamie: Ninety-five pounds.</p>
5	<p>Carolina: _____. Black. Not too high. And not too expensive.</p> <p>Jamie: Why don't you try them on?</p>
6	<p>Carolina: Excuse me? _____</p> <p>Shop Assistant: In a 5? In black or grey?</p> <p>Carolina: I'd like to try both of them please.</p>
7	<p>Carolina: _____ – the grey ones or the black ones?</p> <p>Jamie: They're both nice.</p>
8	<p>Jamie: OK, if I say I prefer the black ones, can we just buy them and get out of here?</p> <p>Carolina: _____. Do you like them? Or do you prefer the grey ones?</p>
9	<p>Carolina: Excuse me,</p> <p>Shop assistant: Yes?</p> <p>Carolina: _____.</p> <p>Shop assistant: The black ones?</p>

**Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 2**

Look again at some of Jamie and 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. Carolina: They're nice.

Jamie: Which ones? Those boots?

Carolina: No, those shoes at the back. \_\_\_\_\_. Let's go in and have a look.

- a) The red
- b) They're red
- c) The red ones
- d) Those red ones

2. Carolina: Five and a half. What does that mean? I'm a thirty-six in Venezuela.

Jamie: Yeah, British sizes are different. \_\_\_\_\_. See if they fit.

- a) Try them on
- b) Put them on
- c) Try them
- d) Wear them

3. Jamie: What about these red ones?

Carolina: They're horrible! \_\_\_\_\_. I can't wear very high heels – I can't walk.

- a) And they're really high
- b) And they're very high
- c) And they're higher
- d) And they're too high

4. Jamie: These black ones then. They're a size 5.

Carolina: Mmm. They're quite nice. \_\_\_\_\_?

Jamie: Ninety-five pounds.

- a) What's the cost?
- b) How much are they?
- c) How many pounds?
- d) How much do they cost?

5. Carolina: Now \_\_\_\_\_ . Black. Not too high. And not too expensive.

Jamie: Why don't you try them on?

- a) these are well
- b) I like these
- c) these are nice
- d) these are better

6. Carolina: Excuse me? \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Shop Assistant: In a 5? In black or grey?

- a) Have you got a number 5?
- b) Is there a size 5?
- c) Do you have these in a size 5?
- d) Have you got these in a size 5?

7. Carolina: So \_\_\_\_\_ – the grey ones or the black ones?

Jamie: They're both nice.

- a) which ones do you like best?
- b) which ones do you prefer?
- c) which ones shall I buy?
- d) which ones would you like?

8. Jamie: OK, if I say I prefer the black ones, can we just buy them and get out of here?

Carolina: Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ the black ones. Do you like them? Or do you prefer the grey ones?

- a) I think I'll buy
- b) I'm going to get
- c) I buy
- d) I think I'll get

9. Carolina: Excuse me,

Shop assistant: Yes?

Carolina: \_\_\_\_\_ .

Shop assistant: The black ones?

- a) I'll take these please
- b) I take these please
- c) Can I take these please?
- d) Will I take these please?

**Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 3**

Now imagine you're in a shoe shop with a friend. Complete the conversation.

You: I like those shoes.

Friend: Which ones?

You: \_\_\_\_\_

Friend: What size are you?

You: \_\_\_\_\_

Friend: Try them on, see if they fit.

You: No \_\_\_\_\_.

You: [*ask the shop assistant for the shoes in your size*] \_\_\_\_\_?

Shop assistant: No, I'm sorry. We've only got the ones on the shelf.

Friend: What about these?

You: No, [*say why you don't like the shoes*] \_\_\_\_\_ . [*say what kind of shoes you want*] \_\_\_\_\_ .

Friend: Well, what about these?

You: Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ . [*ask about the price*] \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Friend: Thirty-nine pounds. Why don't you try them on? They've got them in lots of different colours.

You: \_\_\_\_\_ [*ask your friend's opinion*] \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Friend: I think I prefer the black ones. What about you?

You: \_\_\_\_\_

Friend: Well, buy them then.

You: [*tell the shop assistant you want to buy the shoes*] \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 1**

Choose the one best answer. See *Answers* at the end of this support pack.

1. A: Do you like these shoes?

B: Well, I think I prefer the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) black one
- b) black ones
- c) blacks

2. What about these boots. Do you like \_\_\_\_\_?

- a) –
- b) they
- c) them

3. This jacket is too small. Have you got a bigger \_\_\_\_\_?
- a) it
  - b) one
  - c) –
4. A: Which is your car?  
B: The blue \_\_\_\_\_ over there.
- a) it
  - b) one
  - c) –
5. Happy birthday! I bought you a present. I hope you like \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) one
  - b) it
  - c) –
6. Mmmm. These chocolates are delicious. Would you like \_\_\_\_\_?
- a) one
  - b) –
  - c) it
7. I like small dogs, but I'm afraid of big \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) –
  - b) them
  - c) ones
8. You're afraid of big dogs? I'm afraid of \_\_\_\_\_ too!
- a) ones
  - b) them
  - c) they

### Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 2

Look at the mini dialogues. Choose the best phrase for each situation.

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

1. A: Did you know I'm eighteen today?

B: Really? \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Happy birthday!
- c) Good luck!

2. A: Here you are. You see, I didn't forget your birthday.

B: A present! Thank you! \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Bless you!
- b) It's lovely!
- c) Good luck!

3. A: My daughter is going to have a baby. I'm going to be a grandfather!

B: That's great news! \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Congratulations!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Have a nice time!

4. A: I'm off to Portugal tomorrow for my holidays.

B: Are you? \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Cheers!
- b) Have a nice time!
- c) Congratulations!

5. A: I've got my final English exam tomorrow.

B: \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Good luck!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Cheers!

6. A: Atchoo! Atchoo!

B: \_\_\_\_\_

A: Thank you. I think I'm getting a cold.

- a) Bless you!
- b) Cheers!
- c) Well done!

7 A: I think I'm getting a cold. I feel really terrible.

B: Oh no! \_\_\_\_\_

- a) It's lovely!
- b) Have a nice time!
- c) Poor old you!

8. A: Hello. \_\_\_\_\_ What lovely decorations!

B: Same to you. Come in. Your present is under the tree.

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Merry Christmas!
- c) Congratulations!

9. A: OK that's it. The end of 2005 and the beginning of 2006.

B: Yes, it's two minutes past midnight. \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Have a nice time!
- b) Good luck!
- c) Happy New Year!

10 A: We've been married for ten years today.

B: Really? \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Happy anniversary!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Happy birthday!

11. A: Hey! I passed the exam. I got 19 out of 20.

B: \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Good luck!
- b) Well done!
- c) It's lovely!

12. A: OK, has everyone got a drink?

B: Yes I think so. OK. \_\_\_\_\_

- a) Cheers!
- b) Bless you!
- c) Poor old you!

**Answers****While you listen – Answers**

1. *a,b,c*
2. *b,c*
3. *a,b,d*
4. *c*
5. *b,c*
6. *d*
7. *b,c*

**Section 1 – Exercise 1 – Answers**

1. *H*; 2. *F*; 3. *A*; 4. *K*; 5. *D*; 6. *B*; 7. *G*; 8. *J*
9. *E*; 10. *L*; 11. *C*; 12. *I*

**Section 3 – Exercise 1 – Quiz – Answers**

1. *grandfather*
2. *father-in-law*
3. *grandmother*
4. *mother-in-law*
5. *husband*
6. *father*
7. *uncle*
8. *brother*
9. *wife*
10. *daughter-in-law*
11. *sister-in-law*
12. *aunt*
13. *sister*
14. *mother*
15. *son-in-law*
16. *brother-in-law*
17. *grandson*
18. *cousin*
19. *nephew*
20. *son*

21. *daughter*
22. *granddaughter*
23. *niece*

**Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 1 – Answers**

1. *The red ones*
2. *Try them on*
3. *And they're too high*
4. *How much are they?*
5. *Now these are nice*
6. *Have you got these in a size 5?*
7. *So which ones do you like best?*
8. *Yes, I think I'll get the black ones*
9. *I'll take these please*

**Section 5 – Carolina – Exercise 2 – Answers**

1. *b,c,d*
2. *a,c*
3. *a,b,d*
4. *b,d*
5. *b,c,d*
6. *c,d*
7. *a,b,c*
8. *a,b,d*
9. *a,c*

**Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 1 – Answers**

1. *b*; 2. *c*; 3. *b*; 4. *b*; 5. *b*; 6. *a*; 7. *c*; 8. *b*

**Section 6 – Tom – Exercise 2 – Answers**

1. *b*; 2. *b*; 3. *a*; 4. *b*; 5. *a*; 6. *a*; 7. *c*; 8. *b*
9. *c*; 10. *a*; 11. *b*; 12.