

In episode 6, Milton tells his brother some news. What do you think his news is?

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

Vocabulary

1. to get away
2. an accent
3. to charge
4. to hear from someone
5. a deal
6. an advert
7. a discount
8. the Tube

Definition

- a. a sign to offer a service or sell something
- b. to ask someone to pay for a service
- c. a reduction in price
- d. the way that someone pronounces words, influenced by where they come from
- e. London's underground train system
- f. an agreement or arrangement, especially in business
- g. to leave a place or person (because you don't want to be late)
- h. to get a letter, phone call or message from someone

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Milton found his new job by himself.	True	False
2. Milton finds it difficult to pronounce Robert's surname.	True	False
3. Robert likes the Brazilian accent.	True	False
4. Robert is happy with Milton's first price.	True	False
5. They decide to have the lessons at Robert's house.	True	False
6. Robert prefers classes in the mornings.	True	False
7. Milton is very grateful for Mei's help in finding his new job.	True	False
8. Milton spoke to his mother very recently.	True	False

Task 2

Circle the best answer.

1. Why does Milton phone Robert?
 - a. to ask Robert to give him English lessons
 - b. to offer to give Robert Spanish lessons
 - c. to offer to give Robert Portuguese lessons
2. What is Robert's level of Portuguese?
 - a. complete beginner
 - b. intermediate
 - c. advanced
3. How many hours of lessons does Robert want to have per week?
 - a. two
 - b. four
 - c. six
4. Where does Milton live?
 - a. near Covent Garden Tube station
 - b. near Camden Town Tube station
 - c. near Camden Road bus station
5. What price do Milton and Robert agree on for the lessons?
 - a. £30 per hour
 - b. £40 for a two-hour lesson
 - c. £50 for a two-hour lesson
6. What's Robert's job?
 - a. He works in a restaurant.
 - b. He works in a hospital.
 - c. He works in a hotel.
7. What time do they agree for the lessons?
 - a. 5.30 – 7.30 p.m.
 - b. 6 – 8 p.m.
 - c. 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.
8. When are they going to start the lessons?
 - a. today
 - b. tomorrow
 - c. next Monday

Discussion

Have you ever taught a language class?

Transcript

Milton: Hi, Alfredo. Exciting news – I’ve finally got lucky! I think I’ve got another job. Not acting, unfortunately, but something that’ll help with money. Mei – my new neighbour, remember – found an advert from someone looking for a ... you’ll never guess if you remember me at school ... a teacher! To teach him Portuguese. Aaargh! So I looked at the number every few minutes for a whole day and then I phoned ...

Milton: 9 ... 1 ... 3 ... 7 ... 3 ... 4 ... 8 ... 6 ... 9. Hello? Is that Robert Macla ...

Robert: Robert MacLachlan. Yes, speaking.

Milton: Hello. Um. Robert. My name is Milton, Milton da Silva, and I saw your card at the school. Well, a friend saw it for me, the card for Portuguese lessons, and I thought, well, I can do that!

Robert: OK. Hello, Milton. Are you Portuguese?

Milton: No, I’m Brazilian ... but, I mean, we speak Portuguese, it’s the same language.

Robert: That’s great. It’s really Brazilian Portuguese that I want to learn. I love the accent. Bom dia!

Milton: Great! That’s me. Um, so you’re thinking of six lessons a week?

Robert: Well, six hours. Maybe three lessons of two hours each? Or maybe two hours is too long for a complete beginner. I don’t know. What do you think? You’re the teacher.

Milton: Um, yes, well, um, let’s try two hours and see how it goes.

Robert: OK. Good idea. Now for price. How much do you charge per hour, Milton?

Milton: Well, I usually charge something like £30 ...

Robert: Thirty pounds an hour? That’s a bit more than I was hoping to pay.

Milton: Well, of course, as you want to have six hours a week, I can offer you a cheaper price. A discount. Let’s say £50 for two hours.

Robert: Where do you live, Milton?

Milton: Not far from Camden Town Tube station. Do you know it? It’s about 15 minutes’ walk.

Robert: Yes, I know it. How about if we have the lessons at your place – I can come to you. Then you don’t have to travel, so perhaps we could say, um, £40 for the two-hour lesson? What do you think?

Milton: You could come to my flat ... hmmm ... OK. That’s good for me. OK. It’s a deal.

Robert: Good. Text me the address.

Milton: Will do. OK, Robert. See you on ... Ha! What days do you want the lessons? And what time?

Robert: That might be a problem. I don't have a regular timetable in my job. I work in a hotel and it changes every month. At the moment, evenings is best for me. Say from six to eight? Monday, Wednesday and Friday?

Milton: Ah. There's a slight problem. I have to ... I've got a ... um, another lesson at half past seven. Could we do from five thirty to seven thirty? Does that work for you?

Robert: I think so. I can probably get away at five and the hotel isn't far from Camden. Shall we start tomorrow? Are there any books you think I should buy to study?

Milton: Um, let's talk about that tomorrow ...

Milton: Mei? Hello? Are you in there? It's Milton.

Mei: Hello.

Milton: Yippee! Come here! (*kisses her on the cheek*)

Mei: Ugh, stop it, Milton! What's happened?

Milton: I'm a teacher! I start tomorrow! Mr Robert Mac ... I can't remember! He said it on the phone and I can't remember. Anyway, he's coming here tomorrow at five thirty and I'm going to teach him Portuguese and he's going to give me £40! The world is a beautiful place!

Mei: All because of me.

Milton: All thanks to you!

Milton: So there you are. Your little brother's got a new job, thanks to Mei. Starting tomorrow ... ? I'll let you know how it goes. By the way, I still haven't heard from Mum – have you? Remind her I'm still alive if you get a chance ...

Answers

Preparation task

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

Task 1

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. False
6. False
7. True
8. False

Task 2

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