

This downloadable pdf file contains support materials and the transcript of the podcast.

While you listen

Download the LearnEnglish Elementary podcast. You'll find all the details on this page:
<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts>

While you listen, read and answer the questions below.

Section 1

1. What do you know about Ravi's weekend?
Tick all the phrases you think are true.
There may be more than one right answer.

- a) he had a bad cold
- b) he telephoned Tess
- c) he played football
- d) he watched 'Lord of the Rings'

Section 2

2. What does Marcus say about Bob Marley?
Tick all the phrases you think are true.

- a) he was a religious man
- b) his music has a message
- c) poor people love him
- d) he started playing music when he was fourteen

Section 3

3. How many words does Max guess correctly on Hot Seat? Tick the correct number.

- a) seven
- b) eight
- c) nine
- d) ten

Section 4

4. What do you know about Cheung Chau and its festival? Tick all the phrases you think are true.
Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) Cheung Chau is modern and busy
- b) the festival lasts for a week
- c) the festival is connected with the god of the sea
- d) people don't go to MacDonald's during the festival

Section 5

5. How many people prefer the book to the film?
Tick the correct number.

- a) one
- b) two
- c) three
- d) four

Section 6

6. What do you know about Jamie? Remember there may be more than one right answer.

- a) he likes sitting in the quiet coach
- b) he studies in Newcastle
- c) he's friendly to Carolina
- d) he's going to buy Carolina lunch in Newcastle

7. How much does Jamie pay for their snack?
Tick the one that you think is true.

- a) £9.20
- b) £18
- c) 80p
- d) £10

Section 7

8. What do you learn about the dog in the joke?
Tick all the answers that you think are true

- a) he can cry
- b) he can laugh
- c) he can read
- d) he can write

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Section 1 – “How are you feeling?” – being sympathetic

Transcript

Ravi: Hello again and welcome to LearnEnglish Elementary podcast number four. I'm Ravi – from Manchester
 Tess: And I'm Tess – from London. Hi. Now, as usual we've got loads of great stuff for you to listen to but before we tell you about that - Ravi, I have to ask you, are you feeling better now?
 Ravi: Oh, a lot better now thank you.
 Tess: On Saturday morning Ravi called me and he sounded *terrible*. “Oh Tess, I feel *really* bad.”
 Ravi: Yeah, OK. I did feel terrible. I had a really bad cold, a headache, ugh! I had a football match on Saturday afternoon too.
 Tess: You didn't play football, did you?
 Ravi: No, I felt too bad. Do you know what I did?
 Tess: What?
 Ravi: A friend came over and we watched all of the Lord of the Rings films – all three of them. Ten hours of DVDs!
 Tess: You're joking. I can't watch TV for that long. I get bored. Anyway, I didn't really like Lord of the Rings. I liked the book. The film's never as good as the book, I think.

Tom's tip

When British people say “How are you?” this is really a way of saying “Hello”. We are not really asking if someone is well or feeling ill – we expect the person to answer “Fine thanks” or “I'm OK thanks”. If we want to know if someone is ill, we ask “How are you feeling?”. If we know that someone has been ill, we can ask the question that Tess asks Ravi – “Are you feeling better?”

Section 1 - Exercise 1

Now look at this dialogue between Dave and Paul and put the phrases in the box in the right places. You can compare your answers with the text on the answer page.

I was really ill you know.	Poor you	I couldn't go to
it was something I ate.	She told me to stay in bed	she was OK about it.
Are you feeling better	We were all worried about you.	Well, it obviously helped.

Dave: Hi Paul. _____ now?

Paul: Yes, I am thanks, but _____. It was horrible. I felt so sick.

Dave: You poor thing. You looked awful. You were as white as a sheet.

Paul: Thanks. I'm OK now. I think _____. I stayed in bed all day – I didn't go to work, and, even worse, _____ my sister's birthday dinner.

Dave: _____. That's really bad luck. Was she very upset?

Paul: A bit. I phoned her and explained and _____. I think she was a bit worried about me too. _____ and drink lots of water.

Dave: Water?

Paul: Yeah, she said it cleans out your system or something.

Dave: _____. You look fine now. Anyway, do you feel like going out for a drink tonight? I'm meeting Stella at seven thirty. You get on well with her, don't you?

Section 1 - Exercise 2

This is a summary of the dialogue between Dave and Paul. Can you remember the phrases that they used?

Dave: Asks Paul if he's better now.

Paul: Answers and describes how he felt.

Dave: Sympathises and explains why he was worried.

Paul: Explains what was wrong with him and explains what happened later.

Dave: Sympathises and asks a question about what happened later.

Paul: Answers and describes what he did to get better.

Dave: Asks for more information.

Paul: Explains.

Dave: Makes a comment and moves the conversation on to a new topic.

Section 1 - Exercise 3

Now you can practise the conversation with a friend, or you can write the dialogue in the space below.

<i>You</i>	Ask if better	
<i>Your friend</i>	Answer and describe how you felt	
<i>You</i>	Sympathise and say how worried you were	
<i>Your friend</i>	Explain what was wrong with you. Explain what happened	
<i>You</i>	Sympathise. Ask a question about what happened	
<i>Your friend</i>	Answer the question	
<i>You</i>	(Ask your friend to explain if you don't understand)	
<i>Your friend</i>	(explain)	
<i>You</i>	Make a comment Move the conversation on to a new topic	

Tess: Bob Marley! He's one of my heroes. I'm sure all our listeners know Bob Marley, but could you explain who he is for us?

Marcus: Bob Marley was Jamaican – and he was the man who gave reggae music to the world – the world outside Jamaica of course. And the Rastafarian religion too – he was also famous for his religious beliefs. He was born in 1945 and died in 1981. So, he died very young – he was only in his thirties.

Tess: Hmm.

Ravi: How did he die?

Marcus: He had cancer.

Ravi: And why did you choose him to talk about today?

Marcus: Bob Marley never wrote a bad song. My father was a big Bob Marley fan so I grew up listening to his music at home when I was a kid – I used to listen to it when I was sad - it's impossible to listen to Bob Marley and feel unhappy - that was his message to the world – "Don't worry, be happy". He wasn't interested in negative things – his music was always positive. He's a legend. He was the first '*superstar*' from a poor country – and that's why people from poor countries all over the world love him so much – his music *speaks* to them. Everywhere you go, everywhere in the world, people know and love Bob Marley – *everywhere*. He was poor, he grew up in an area called Trench Town - a very poor area in Jamaica, with gang problems and drug problems. He left school when he was fourteen and started work. His message is universal – it's a protest really. It's about how human beings are all the same, black or white, rich or poor, and his religion helped him to understand that. He once said "I don't stand for the black man's side, I don't stand for the white man's side – I stand for God's side". God was very important to him - he was a very spiritual man. I'm a musician and I want my music to have a message – I want to make people feel good. Like in the song "One love, one heart, let's get together and feel all right" – that's the message - it's so simple.

Tess: And is there a special question that you'd like to ask him Marcus?

Marcus: Thousands! But no, not really, not one *special* question. I'd like to sit and talk to him for a long time – all night if I could - but no, not one special question.

Ravi: I enjoyed that Marcus. Thanks a lot.

Tess: Me too. Thank you.

Marcus: Thank *you*

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Section 3 – Quiz

Section 3 – Exercise 1

When you play Hot Seat, sometimes it can be easy to guess the words. But you need a lot of vocabulary to be able to explain them. Here are the words that Hannah explained in this Hot Seat quiz. Can you put the words in the box in the right spaces? Answers are on the Answer Page.

animal	carrots	cow	cross	disco	drink	ears	eat	fruit	hard
milk	morning	river	sail	sea	sick	stand	thing	wash	white

ship: It's a big [1]_____. It's on the [2]_____ and you [3]_____ in it

rabbit: It's an [4]_____. It's got big [5]_____ and it eats [6]_____.

dance: You do it at the [7]_____.

coconut: It's a [8]_____. It's very [9]_____ and it's got [10]_____ inside. You can [11]_____ part of it.

hospital: You go there when you're [12]_____.

milk: It's [13]_____ and it comes from a [14]_____. You [15]_____ it.

bridge: It goes across the [16]_____. You [17]_____ it.

shower: You [18]_____ under it in the [19]_____ and [20]_____ yourself.

Section 3 – Exercise 2

Now try to explain these words. There are lots of possible answers, but you can find some suggestions on the Answer Page.

1. a carrot: _____
2. a disco: _____
3. milk: _____
4. cow: _____
5. the sea: _____
6. ears _____

Section 4 – Our person in

You listened to Robert talking about the Bun Festival in Cheung Chau.

Can you think of a local festival that you can tell people about? It could be a festival in the place where you live. Or it could be a festival that you've seen in another place, maybe when you were on holiday.

Think about these questions:

- Where can you see the festival?
- When does it happen?
- What does the festival celebrate?
- What do people do?
- Do people wear special clothes?
- Is there any special food or drink?
- What is the history of the festival?

Now write a paragraph about the festival. If you want, you can send your paragraph to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org The transcript is on the next page.

Transcript

Robert: In the centre of Hong Kong everything is new, modern and busy. It's difficult to think what the city was like a hundred years ago. But only forty-five minutes away from the centre, on the small island of Cheung Chau we can see another side of Hong Kong – a side that is not very different from how it was centuries ago.

Every year, in May, Cheung Chau celebrates its Bun Festival. The buns are small, white, bread rolls and huge towers made of bamboo are covered in the sweet buns in the festival, which lasts for a week. No-one knows exactly why the festival started but there is a procession to honour Pak Tai – the sea god. In this procession, children in fantastic costumes are carried through the village. The costumes hide the seats that the children are sitting on and it looks like they are flying.

For three days before the festival no-one on the island eats meat. The butcher's shop is closed and restaurants serve only vegetarian dishes. Even the small McDonald's on the island sells only vegetarian food for these three days. Perhaps, for three days, this quiet corner of one of the busiest places on earth is the only place where you can't buy a Big Mac at McDonald's!

Section 5 – Your turn

In Your Turn you heard 5 people answer this question:
“Which do you prefer – the book or the film?”

What do *you* think?

Here are some things people talked about:

- You can use your imagination when you read a book
- A film shows you more than a book
- A film can spoil what you imagined when you read the book
- Books can take a long time to read
- A film is more exciting than a book
- You have to work harder when you read a book
- A good, serious book is always better than the film

Which ones do you agree with? Which do *you* prefer – the book or the film?

Write down your opinion. You can give some examples of books and films that you've read and seen. If you want, you can send your opinion to learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org

You can read the Transcript on the next page

Transcript

Ravi: We went out into the street to find out what people think about this question: "Which do you prefer – the book or the film?"

Tess: Book or film? For me, the book, but let's hear what people said.

Voice 1: I definitely prefer the book. I love going to the cinema but if there's a book and I've read it, then I never go to see the film. Reading books is all about *imagination* and the film spoils that. Like when you read a book and you can't imagine the character because you keep thinking of, say, Brad Pitt's face.

Voice 2: The film definitely. Look at Lord of the Rings. It's a *really* long book. In fact it's three long books – it takes months to read and with the film you get all the special effects and it looks fantastic – much more exciting than the books.

Voice 3: It depends. It depends on the book. If it's a serious book by a good writer then the book is always better than the film but if it's not a great book – a thriller or something like that – the film can be better than the book.

Voice 4: Uh, the book, for me. You have to work harder with a book – you have to make the pictures in your head but when it's a good writer it's like watching a film – you make the book into your own film, in your head, and everyone has a different film – that's much better!

Voice 5: I think I prefer films. You get more from a film. In a book you only get the story and you have to imagine how things look. In a film you get the story and you get the actors and music and everything. For example, if a film is set in Japan you get to see Japan. I've never been to Japan – I can't imagine it! A film shows you more.

Tess: Well, I disagree with *him* but there were some interesting opinions there.

Section 6 – Carolina

Section 6 – Exercise 1

Look at these conversations between Carolina and Jamie on the train. Put the expressions in the right places.

Have a toasted sandwich	What do you mean?	What about you?
is anyone sitting here?	What have they got?	Here you are.
cheese and ham please	How much is that?	And to drink?

- Carolina: Excuse me, _____
Jamie: No, it's free. Sorry, I'll move my bag.
- Jamie: Do you live in Newcastle?
Carolina: No, I'm going to study there – at the university. _____
Do you live there?
- Jamie: I'm going to get a coffee or something. Do you want anything?
Carolina: Erm, I don't know. _____
- Jamie: There you go – there's the list on the wall. What do you fancy?
Carolina: 'Fancy'? _____
- Jamie: _____ – they're good. Cheese and tomato?
- Jamie: What about cheese and ham then?
Carolina: Yes, _____.
- Jamie: _____ Coke? Orange juice? A beer?
- Jamie: Yes, erm two toasted sandwiches please - one cheese and tomato, one cheese and ham - an orange juice and a coke. _____
- Assistant: That's nine pounds twenty please.
Jamie: _____

Answers: see Answer page at the end of this document

Section 6 - 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.

1. Carolina: Excuse me, _____?
a) Is this seat free?
b) Is anyone sitting here?
c) Can I sit here?
d) Does anyone sit here?
2. Jamie: Do you live in Newcastle?
Carolina: No, I'm going to study there – at the university. _____ Do you live there?
a) And you?
b) What about you?
c) And for you?
d) How about you?
3. Jamie: I'm going to get a coffee or something. Do you want anything?
Carolina: Erm, I don't know. _____
a) What have they got?
b) What is there?
c) What do they have?
d) What is it?
4. Jamie: There you go – there's the list on the wall. What do you fancy?
Carolina: 'Fancy'? _____?
a) What do you say?
b) How do you say 'fancy'?
c) What does 'fancy' mean?
d) What do you mean?
5. Jamie: _____ – they're good. Cheese and tomato?
a) Try a toasted sandwich
b) Eat a toasted sandwich
c) What about a toasted sandwich?
d) Have a toasted sandwich
6. Jamie: What about cheese and ham then?
Carolina: Yes, _____
a) I'd like cheese and ham please
b) I like cheese and ham, please
c) cheese and ham please.
d) I'll have cheese and ham please
7. Jamie: _____ Coke? Orange juice? A beer?
a) And to drink?
b) And for drink?
c) What do you want to drink?
d) What would you like to drink?

8. Jamie: Two toasted sandwiches please - one cheese and tomato, one cheese and ham - an orange juice and a coke. _____
a) How much is that?
b) How much is it?
c) What is the cost?
d) What shall I pay?
9. Assistant: That's nine pounds twenty please.
Jamie: _____.
Assistant: And that's eighty p change. Thank you.
a) Here you are
b) There it is
c) Take this please
d) Here's ten pounds

Section 6 - Exercise 3

Now complete this conversation giving your own answers. Imagine you are talking to a friend on the train. Look at the menu to decide what you want to eat and drink - and in this dialogue, *you're* going to pay for what you and your friend have.

You can practise this conversation with a friend.

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_____?

Sorry, I'll move my bag. Where are you going?

Me too. Do you live there?

_____?

Yeah. I'm at the university. It's a great city. You aren't English are you?

Cool. You speak really good English.

I'm going to get a coffee or something. Do you want anything?

_____?

They've got sandwiches and stuff. There's the list on the wall. What would you like? Have a toasted sandwich – they're good.

And to drink?

Assistant: Can I help you?

_____?

Assistant: That's [_____] please

***Note: you need to calculate this!**

Assistant: And that's [_____] change. Thank you.

Note: you need to calculate this, too!

Menu

Toasted sandwiches

Cheese and tomato £3.45

Cheese and ham £3.45

Sandwiches

Chicken and salad £3.35

Cheese and salad £3.35

Tuna and salad £3.35

Snacks

Crisps 90p

Mixed nuts £1.50

Fruit cake £1.50

Packet of biscuits £1.35

Drinks

Coke, Diet Coke 90p

Coffee £1.50

Tea £1.40

Fresh orange juice £1.40

Beer (bottle) £2.70

Carolina – the Transcript

Tess: Now it's time to meet Carolina again. As you probably remember, Carolina is a Venezuelan student and she's visiting Britain for the first time. She's going to Newcastle, in the north east of England. She's going to live and study there, and of course, have a lot of fun – we hope! In the last podcast we listened to Carolina's conversation at the underground station. She was going to King's Cross station to get the train to Newcastle.

Ravi: That's right. And she was worried that she didn't have time to get to the station to catch her train.

Tess: But everything was all right. Carolina caught her train – with only a few minutes to spare. So let's listen now to what happened on the train to Newcastle.

Carolina: Excuse me, is anyone sitting here?

Jamie: No, it's free. Sorry, I'll move my bag.

Voice over PA system: ...situated towards the front of the train. We would like to remind passengers that coach F, at the rear of the train, is the Quiet Coach. If you are sitting in coach F, please use all electronic equipment quietly and switch mobile phones to silent mode. Please be considerate to other passengers. Thank you.

Carolina: Coach F?

Jamie: Yeah, this is a Quiet Coach. There's a sign - look. No mobile phone conversations. No noise. It's cool. I hate listening to other people's conversations.

Carolina: Oh, OK. I didn't know. It's a good idea.

Jamie: Yeah. Where are you going?

Carolina: Newcastle.

Jamie: Me too. Do you live there?

Carolina: No, I'm going to study there – at the university. What about you? Do you live there?

Jamie: Yeah. I'm at the university too. It's a great city. You aren't English are you.

Carolina: No, I'm Venezuelan.

Jamie: Cool. You speak really good English.

Carolina: Thank you. My mother's English, but I've never been to Britain before. It's all a bit strange.

Man on train: Hello? Dan? Yes, hi, how's it going? Yes, I'm on the train. Yeah? Yeah it finished at six o'clock more or less....

Woman on train: Excuse me! This is a quiet coach. Could you have your conversation in the corridor?

Man on train: What? Uh? Yeah, OK, sorry. Yeah, Dan, sorry, what did you say? I didn't hear you, I'm in the quiet coach - some woman was complaining about ...

Jamie: I'm going to get a coffee or something. D'you want anything?

Carolina: Erm, I don't know, what have they got?

Jamie: Come with me then, you can have a look. They've got sandwiches and stuff too.

Carolina: OK.

Jamie: There you go – there's the list on the wall. What d'you fancy?

Carolina: Fancy? What do you mean?

Jamie: Sorry. What would you like. What do you fancy means what would you like.

Carolina: Do you think I can pay with my visa card? I still haven't got any English money – I lost my bag, and then I nearly missed the train ...

Jamie: Don't worry about it. This one's on me. I'll pay. Have a toasted sandwich – they're good.

Carolina: Cheese and tomato?

Carolina: Cheese with tomato? In a toasted sandwich?

Jamie: Delicious!

Carolina: Oh no!

Jamie: What about cheese and ham then?

Carolina: Yes, cheese and ham please

Jamie: And to drink? Coke? Orange juice? A beer?

Carolina: Erm, orange juice please.

Assistant: Can I help you?

Jamie: Yes, erm two toasted sandwiches please - one cheese and tomato, one cheese and ham - an orange juice and a coke. How much is that?

Assistant: Two toasted sandwiches, three forty-five each, coke ninety p, orange juice one pound forty, that's nine pounds twenty please.

Jamie: Here you are.

Assistant: And that's eighty p change. Thank you.

Carolina: That's very kind of you. It's a lot of money. That's nearly ten pounds.

Jamie: Don't worry about it. I'm a real gentleman. Tell you what, you can take me out for lunch one day in Newcastle. *You* can pay for *me*. I'll give you my phone number. Is that a deal?

Carolina: OK. It's a deal.

Jamie: Good. Now let's sit down and eat these.

Carolina: OK

Section 7 – The Joke

Section 7 - Exercise 1

Read the sentences below and put them in the right order to tell the joke.

You can either cut them up and arrange them or write the number in the space on the left.

	The dog starts crying its eyes out.
	He sits down and in front of him there's a man and a dog.
	At the end of the film, the man waits outside the cinema until the man with the dog comes out.
	and the dog starts laughing at the film.
	"It's absolutely amazing".
	A man goes into a cinema to watch a film.
	"It is amazing".
	"I watched your dog crying and laughing all through the film.
	"He <i>hated</i> the book".
	The film's a romantic comedy. After a little while there's a funny part in the film,
	"I know" says the man with the dog.
	This goes on for the whole film – the dog laughs at the funny parts and cries at the sad parts.
	A little while after that there's a very sad scene.
	"Excuse me" he says,

Section 7 – Exercise 2

Now try to tell the joke yourself. Use these words to help you. When you see a slash (/) it means that one or more words are missing. Then check your answers – the transcript is on the Answer page at the end of this document

Tom's tip

When we tell jokes we sometimes use the past tense and we sometimes use the present tense. Gordon told this joke in the present tense. You can use either the past or the present when you tell it.

- A man / cinema / a film
- He / down / in front / there / man / dog
- / romantic comedy.
- After a little while / funny part / film, / dog / laughing
- A little while after / sad scene
- dog / crying its eyes out
- goes on / whole film – the dog / the funny parts and / the sad parts
- end of the film / man / outside the cinema until the man / out
- "Excuse me" /
- " I / " your dog / all through the film
- "absolutely amazing"
- "I / " the man with the dog
- "It / amazing"
- "He / the book"

See the Answers page for the complete transcript

Tom the teacher**Tom the teacher – Exercise 1**

Look at these ways of saying British prices. Choose the ONE answer that is possible.

1. £3.45
 - a) three pounds and forty-five
 - b) three forty-five
 - c) three and forty-five

2. £9.20
 - a) nine pounds twenty
 - b) nine pounds and twenty
 - c) nine and twenty p

3. 90p
 - a) ninety
 - b) ninety pounds
 - c) ninety p

4. £10
 - a) ten p
 - b) ten
 - c) ten pounds

5. £1.40
 - a) one forty
 - b) one and forty
 - c) one and forty p

6. 50p
 - a) half a pound
 - b) fifty p
 - c) fifty

7. £10.50
 - a) ten pounds fifty
 - b) ten and a half pounds
 - c) ten pounds and fifty

8. £2.50
 - a) two and a half pounds
 - b) two pounds fifty
 - c) two and fifty

Tom the teacher – Exercise 2

Do you remember what Tom said in the podcast about the word 'stuff'? We can use it to mean 'thing' or 'things'. Now underline the word or words in each sentence that can be replaced by 'stuff'.

Example

We've got lots of great things for you to listen to today on the podcast.

We can say: We've got lots of great *stuff* for you to listen to today on the podcast.

1. A: Is this seat free?
B: Yes, sorry, I'll move my bags.
2. Hi John. Just a quick e-mail to say thanks for sending me the information I asked for.
3. Don't leave your handbag in the car – someone might steal it.
4. They went on holiday to Thailand and brought home lots of beautiful souvenirs.
5. I like Picasso, but I must say I prefer his earlier paintings
6. People spend a ridiculous amount of money on decorations for Christmas
7. Your bedroom is so untidy! I can't open the door because of all the clothes on the floor
8. Don't forget your books Sara!
9. I can't come out tonight. I've got some work to do for school
10. He wrote most of the music and songs on the CD himself

Answers: see Answer page at the end of this document

Answers

While you listen - Answers

1) a,b,d; 2) a, b, c; 3) c; 4) b,c; 5) b; 6) a,b,c; 7) a; 8) a,b,c

Section 1 – “How are you feeling?” - Answers

Dave: Hi Paul. **Are you feeling better** now?

Paul: Yes, I am thanks, but **I was really ill you know**. It was horrible. I felt so sick.

Dave: You poor thing. You looked awful. You were as white as a sheet. **We were all worried about you**.

Paul: Thanks. I'm OK now. I think **it was something I ate**. I stayed in bed all day – I didn't go to work, and, even worse, **I couldn't go to** my sister's birthday dinner.

Dave: **Poor you**. That's really bad luck. Was she very upset?

Paul: A bit. I phoned her and explained and **she was OK about it**. I think she was a bit worried about me too. **She told me to stay in bed** and drink lots of water.

Dave: Water?

Paul: Yeah, she said it cleans out your system or something.

Dave: **Well, it obviously helped**. You look fine now. Anyway, do you feel like going out for a drink tonight? I'm meeting Stella at seven thirty. You get on well with her, don't you?

Section 3 - Quiz – Exercise 1 - Answers

1) thing; 2) sea; 3) sail; 4) animal; 5) ears; 6) carrots; 7) disco; 8) fruit; 9) hard; 10) milk; 11) eat; 12) sick; 13) white; 14) cow; 15) drink; 16) river; 17) cross; 18) stand; 19) morning; 20) wash

Section 3 – Exercise 2 - Some possible answers

a carrot: It's a vegetable; It's orange; Rabbits eat them. **a disco**: It's a place; It's got music; You go there to dance. **milk**: It's a drink; It's white; It comes from a cow. **cow**: It's an animal; It eats grass; You get milk from it. **the sea**: It's blue; It's got a lot of water; Ships sail on it; You can swim in it. **ears**: They're part of your body; You've got two of them ; They're on the sides of your head; You hear with them.

Section 6 – Exercise 1 - Answers

1. is anyone sitting here?
2. What about you?
3. What have they got?
4. What do you mean?
5. Have a toasted sandwich
6. cheese and ham please

7. And to drink?

8. How much is that?

9. Here you are.

Section 6 - Exercise 2 - Answers

1) a,b,c; 2) a,b,d; 3) a,b,c; 4) c,d; 5) a,c,d
6) a,c,d; 7) a,c,d; 8 a,b; 9) a,d

Section 7: the Joke: transcript

Gordon: OK then. A man goes into a cinema to watch a film. He sits down and in front of him there's a man and a dog.

Ravi: You can't take dogs into a cinema, can you?

Gordon: You can in this cinema. Anyway, the film's a romantic comedy. After a little while there's a funny part in the film, and – amazing – the dog starts laughing at the film.

Ravi: Uh-huh.

Gordon: Yeah. A little while after that there's a very sad scene. The dog starts crying its eyes out. This goes on for the whole film – the dog laughs at the funny parts and cries at the sad parts.

Well, at the end of the film, the man waits outside the cinema until the man with the dog comes out. "Excuse me" he says, "I watched your dog crying and laughing all through the film. It's absolutely amazing". "I know" says the man with the dog. "It is amazing. He *hated* the book".

Tom the teacher - Exercise 1 - Answers

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

Tom the teacher - Exercise 2 - Answers

1) bags; 2) information; 3) handbag; 4) souvenirs; 5) paintings; 6) decorations; 7) clothes; 8) books; 9) work; 10) [music and] songs

Transcript

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Section 1 – “How are you feeling?” – being sympathetic

Ravi: Hello again and welcome to LearnEnglish Elementary podcast number four. I'm Ravi – from Manchester

Tess: And I'm Tess – from London. Hi. Now, as usual we've got loads of great stuff for you to listen to but before we tell you about that - Ravi, I have to ask you, are you feeling better now?

Ravi: Oh, a lot better now thank you.

Tess: On Saturday morning Ravi called me and he sounded *terrible*. “Oh Tess, I feel *really* bad.”

Ravi: Yeah, OK. I did feel terrible. I had a really bad cold, a headache, ugh! I had a football match on Saturday afternoon too.

Tess: You didn't play football, did you?

Ravi: No, I felt too bad. Do you know what I did?

Tess: What?

Ravi: A friend came over and we watched all of the Lord of the Rings films – all three of them. Ten hours of DVDs!

Tess: You're joking. I can't watch TV for that long. I get bored. Anyway, I didn't really like Lord of the Rings. I liked the book. The film's never as good as the book, I think.

Ravi: I haven't read the book so I don't know but, believe it or not, that's exactly the question we asked people in 'Your Turn' this week – ‘Which do you prefer – the book or the film?’

Tess: Really? I bet everyone says that books are better.

Ravi: I'm not so sure. Anyway, that's for later.

Section 2 – I'd like to meet

Ravi: Now it's time for 'I'd like to meet'. In this part of the podcast we ask people a simple question – which famous person, dead or alive would you like to meet? And we ask them to explain why. So let's say hello to this week's guest, Marcus, from London. Welcome to 'I'd like to meet'

Marcus.

Marcus: Thank you Ravi.

Tess: Hello Marcus.

Marcus: Hi Tess.

Tess: And you're from London Marcus. That's where I'm from.

Marcus: That's right. I was born here - and I've lived here all my life.

Tess: And what do you do?

Marcus: I work in a supermarket, but I want to be a professional musician – that's my ambition for the future.

Tess: We all need ambitions Marcus – and that's a good one. Now I'm going to ask the question.

So Marcus, which famous person, dead or alive would you like to meet? I think I can guess – you're going to talk about a musician aren't you?

Marcus: You're right Tess.

Ravi: Hmm. She's always right!

Marcus: I'd like to meet Bob Marley.

Tess: Bob Marley! He's one of my heroes. I'm sure all our listeners know Bob Marley, but could you explain who he is for us?

Marcus: Bob Marley was Jamaican – and he was the man who gave reggae music to the world – the world outside Jamaica of course. And the Rastafarian religion too – he was also famous for his religious beliefs. He was born in 1945 and died in 1981. So, he died very young – he was only in his thirties.

Tess: Hmm.

Ravi: How did he die?

Marcus: He had cancer.

Ravi: And why did you choose him to talk about today?

Marcus: Bob Marley never wrote a bad song. My father was a big Bob Marley fan so I grew up listening to his music at home when I was a kid – I used to listen to it when I was sad - it's impossible to listen to Bob Marley and feel unhappy - that was his message to the world –“Don't worry, be happy”. He wasn't interested in negative things – his music was always positive. He's a legend. He was the first '*superstar*' from a poor country – and that's why people from poor countries all over the world love him so much – his music *speaks* to them. Everywhere you go, everywhere in the world, people know and love Bob Marley – *everywhere*. He was poor, he grew up in an area called Trench Town - a very poor area in Jamaica, with gang problems and drug problems. He left school when he was fourteen and started work. His message is universal – it's a protest really. It's about how human beings are all the same, black or white, rich or poor, and his religion helped him to understand that. He once said “I don't stand for the black man's side, I don't stand for the white man's side – I stand for God's side”. God was very important to him - he was a very spiritual man. I'm a musician and I want my music to have a message – I want to make people feel good.

Like in the song “One love, one heart, let's get

together and feel all right" – that's the message - it's so simple.

Tess: And is there a special question that you'd like to ask him Marcus?

Marcus: Thousands! But no, not really, not one *special* question. I'd like to sit and talk to him for a long time – all night if I could - but no, not one special question.

Ravi: I enjoyed that Marcus. Thanks a lot.

Tess: Me too. Thank you.

Marcus: Thank *you*

Ravi: And remember listeners, that we'd like to hear from *you*. Which famous person, dead or alive, would *you* like to meet? And why? Email us at 'learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org' - that's learnenglishpodcast - all one word - AT-britishcouncil – all one word - DOT org, that's o-r-g. Let us know which famous person *you* would like to meet.

Tess: Oh, I feel like listening to some Bob Marley now.

Section 3 – Quiz

Ravi: No time for that Tess, it's time for our quiz.

Every week we have a little quiz to make you think. This week we're going to play Hot Seat again. Here to play are Hannah and Max. Hi Hannah.

Hannah: Hello

Ravi: Hi Max

Max: Hello.

Ravi: You're both from Sheffield, is that right?

Max: Yeah

Ravi: And how old are you?

Max: I'm seventeen

Hannah: And I'm sixteen. We go to the same school. St Joseph's.

Ravi: Are you in the same class?

Hannah: We are, yeah.

Ravi: OK. And who's doing what? Who's going to explain the words and who's going to be in the Hot Seat?

Hannah: I'll explain and Max'll guess.

Ravi: OK. OK, Max?

Max: OK.

Ravi: Right. Remember how to play? These cards have all got words on. Hannah has to explain the words and Max has to guess them. But remember Hannah, you can't use the words on the card. Max, you have to guess as many words as you can in one minute. OK?

Hannah and Max: OK

Ravi: Then let's go. You've got one minute starting *now*!

Hannah: Erm .. big thing. On the sea. You sail in it.

Max: Boat? Ship.

Hannah: Ship! An animal. Small. Big ears.

Max: Elephant.

Hannah: No. It's small. Carrots! It eats carrots.

Max: Rabbit.

Hannah: Yes, yes! Erm .. you do it at the disco.

Max: Dance.

Hannah: Yes! It's a fruit I think. It's very hard. It's got milk inside. You can eat part of it but not the outside.

Max: Coconut!

Hannah: Yes! Erm, you go there when you're sick.

Max: Hospital. Doctor's.

Hannah: Hospital. It's white. Comes from a cow. You drink it.

Max: Milk.

Hannah: It goes across the river. You cross it.

Max: A bridge

Hannah: You stand under it in the morning and you wash yourself.

Max: Shower!

Hannah: It's a day. Erm ...you'll be eighteen

Max: Birthday.

Ravi: We'll give you 'birthday'. Fantastic. How many was that? I make it nine. Is that right? Yes, nine. Brilliant. Well done Hannah and Max!

Tess: Well done! And if any of you listening have a good game we can play in quiz time, write to us and let us know. The address is learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. We'd love to hear your ideas for games we can play. Phew! It makes me tired just listening to Hot Seat so now we'll have something a bit more relaxed.

Section 4 – Our person in

It's time for 'Our Person In'. This is the part of the podcast where we listen to people in interesting places all over the world telling us something about life in the country they're in. This week Robert Watson is Our Man in Hong Kong. Robert: In the centre of Hong Kong everything is new, modern and busy. It's difficult to think what the city was like a hundred years ago. But only forty-five minutes away from the centre, on the small island of Cheung Chau we can see another side of Hong Kong – a side that is not very different from how it was centuries ago. Every year, in May, Cheung Chau celebrates its Bun Festival. The buns are small, white, bread rolls and huge towers made of bamboo are covered in the sweet buns in the festival, which lasts for a week. No-one knows exactly why the festival started but there is a procession to honour

Pak Tai – the sea god. In this procession, children in fantastic costumes are carried through the village. The costumes hide the seats that the children are sitting on and it looks like they are flying.

For three days before the festival no-one on the island eats meat. The butcher's shop is closed and restaurants serve only vegetarian dishes. Even the small McDonald's on the island sells only vegetarian food for these three days. Perhaps, for three days, this quiet corner of one of the busiest places on earth is the only place where you can't buy a Big Mac at McDonald's!
Tess: No Big Macs. Sounds great.

Ravi: Oh come on Tess, everybody eats a Big Mac now and then.

Tess: I don't. Ugh!

Ravi: You never eat fast food?

Tess: I try not to. Horrible stuff!

Ravi: Actually, fast food might be a good idea for Your Turn – but not this week. Your Turn, listeners, is when we go into the street

Tess: Oh, you forgot to give the address.

Ravi: Oh right. Yes. Sorry. If you'd like to write in and tell us something interesting about your city or town, we'd love to hear from you. You can send it to us at learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Section 5 – Your turn

Ravi: OK. Now we can move on to Your Turn. We went out into the street to find out what people think about this question: "Which do you prefer – the book or the film?"

Tess: Book or film? For me, the book, but let's hear what people said.

Voice 1: I definitely prefer the book. I love going to the cinema but if there's a book and I've read it, then I never go to see the film. Reading books is all about *imagination* and the film spoils that. Like when you read a book and you can't imagine the character because you keep thinking of, say, Brad Pitt's face.

Voice 2: The film definitely. Look at Lord of the Rings. It's a *really* long book. In fact it's three long books – it takes months to read and with the film you get all the special effects and it looks fantastic – much more exciting than the books.

Voice 3: It depends. It depends on the book. If it's a serious book by a good writer then the book is always better than the film but if it's not a great book – a thriller or something like that – the film can be better than the book.

Voice 4: Uh, the book, for me. You have to work harder with a book – you have to make the pictures in your head but when it's a good writer it's like watching a film – you make the book into your own film, in your head, and everyone has a different film – that's much better!

Voice 5: I think I prefer films. You get more from a film. In a book you only get the story and you have to imagine how things look. In a film you get the story and you get the actors and music and everything. For example, if a film is set in Japan you get to see Japan. I've never been to Japan – I can't imagine it! A film shows you more.

Tess: Well, I disagree with *him* but there were some interesting opinions there.

Ravi: Remember that we'd love to know what you think. 'Which do you prefer – the book or the film?' Or do you have an idea for a question that we could ask on Your Turn? Send us an email at learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org and we can ask *your* question in another podcast.

Section 6 – Carolina

Tess: Now it's time to meet Carolina again. As you probably remember, Carolina is a Venezuelan student and she's visiting Britain for the first time. She's going to Newcastle, in the north east of England. She's going to live and study there, and of course, have a lot of fun – we hope! In the last podcast we listened to Carolina's conversation at the underground station. She was going to King's Cross station to get the train to Newcastle.

Ravi: That's right. And she was worried that she didn't have time to get to the station to catch her train.

Tess: But everything was all right. Carolina caught her train – with only a few minutes to spare. So let's listen now to what happened on the train to Newcastle.

Carolina: Excuse me, is anyone sitting here?

Jamie: No, it's free. Sorry, I'll move my bag.

Voice over PA system: ...situated towards the front of the train. We would like to remind passengers that coach F, at the rear of the train, is the Quiet Coach. If you are sitting in coach F, please use all electronic equipment quietly and switch mobile phones to silent mode. Please be considerate to other passengers. Thank you.

Carolina: Coach F?

Jamie: Yeah, this is a Quiet Coach. There's a sign – look. No mobile phone conversations. No noise.

It's cool. I hate listening to other people's conversations.

Carolina: Oh, OK. I didn't know. It's a good idea.

Jamie: Yeah. Where are you going?

Carolina: Newcastle.

Jamie: Me too. Do you live there?

Carolina: No, I'm going to study there – at the university. What about you? Do you live there?

Jamie: Yeah. I'm at the university too. It's a great city. You aren't English are you.

Carolina: No, I'm Venezuelan.

Jamie: Cool. You speak really good English.

Carolina: Thank you. My mother's English, but I've never been to Britain before. It's all a bit strange.

Man on train: Hello? Dan? Yes, hi, how's it going? Yes, I'm on the train. Yeah? Yeah it finished at six o'clock more or less....

Woman on train: Excuse me! This is a quiet coach. Could you have your conversation in the corridor?

Man on train: What? Uh? Yeah, OK, sorry. Yeah, Dan, sorry, what did you say? I didn't hear you, I'm in the quiet coach - some woman was complaining about ...

Jamie: I'm going to get a coffee or something. D'you want anything?

Carolina: Erm, I don't know, what have they got?

Jamie: Come with me then, you can have a look. They've got sandwiches and stuff too.

Carolina: OK.

Jamie: There you go – there's the list on the wall. What d'you fancy?

Carolina: Fancy? What do you mean?

Jamie: Sorry. What would you like. What do you fancy means what would you like.

Carolina: Do you think I can pay with my visa card? I still haven't got any English money – I lost my bag, and then I nearly missed the train ...

Jamie: Don't worry about it. This one's on me. I'll pay. Have a toasted sandwich – they're good. Cheese and tomato?

Carolina: Cheese with tomato? In a toasted sandwich?

Jamie: Delicious!

Carolina: Oh no!

Jamie: What about cheese and ham then?

Carolina: Yes, cheese and ham please

Jamie: And to drink? Coke? Orange juice? A beer?

Carolina: Erm, orange juice please.

Assistant: Can I help you?

Jamie: Yes, erm two toasted sandwiches please - one cheese and tomato, one cheese and ham - an orange juice and a coke. How much is that?

Assistant: Two toasted sandwiches, three forty-five each, coke ninety p, orange juice one pound forty, that's nine pounds twenty please.

Jamie: Here you are.

Assistant: And that's eighty p change. Thank you.

Carolina: That's very kind of you. It's a lot of money. That's nearly ten pounds.

Jamie: Don't worry about it. I'm a real gentleman.

Tell you what, you can take me out for lunch one day in Newcastle. *You* can pay for *me*. I'll give you my phone number. Is that a deal?

Carolina: OK. It's a deal.

Jamie: Good. Now let's sit down and eat these.

Carolina: OK

Tess: Hmm. Jamie sounds nice.

Ravi: Uh, honestly, you women!

Tess: What?!

Ravi: Never mind.

Section 7 – The Joke

Ravi: Right, that's almost the end but we can't go before we hear from Gordon, our producer. Hey, Gordon, I've got a joke for you this week.

Gordon: Oh yes? Erm, come on then, let's hear it.

Ravi: OK. What's red and invisible?

Gordon: Erm, I don't know. What's red and invisible?

Ravi: No tomatoes!

Gordon: Ho, ho, ho! That's worse than mine.

Leave the jokes to me Ravi.

Ravi: Come on then, let's hear it for this week.

Gordon: Right. I've got the perfect joke for this week's podcast. Ready?

Ravi: OK.

Gordon: OK then. A man goes into a cinema to watch a film. He sits down and in front of him there's a man and a dog.

Ravi: You can't take dogs into a cinema, can you?

Gordon: You can in this cinema. Anyway, the film's a romantic comedy. After a little while there's a funny part in the film, and – amazing – the dog starts laughing at the film.

Ravi: Uh-huh.

Gordon: Yeah. A little while after that there's a very sad scene. The dog starts crying its eyes out. This goes on for the whole film – the dog laughs at the funny parts and cries at the sad parts.

Well, at the end of the film, the man waits outside the cinema until the man with the dog comes out. "Excuse me" he says, "I watched your dog crying and laughing all through the film. It's absolutely amazing". "I know" says the man with the dog. "It is amazing. He *hated* the book".

Tess: Are all your jokes about funny animals Gordon?

Gordon: Ah well, most of them, yes.

Ravi: OK. We have to go now but don't go away. After this little break you're going to hear Tom, our English teacher. After every show, Tom talks about the language you heard and gives you ideas to help you learn. So, don't go away, but we'll say goodbye now. See you next time.

Tess

Bye! Don't forget to send us your emails! Here's that address one more time. It's learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org.

Tom the teacher

Tom: Hi, my name's Tom – you'll hear from me at the end of every podcast. I'm going to talk about some of the language that you heard, and talk about ways to help you learn English. The first thing I want to talk about today is British money. British money is 'pounds' and 'pence'. One pound is one hundred pence - there are a hundred pence in a pound. Listen to Carolina and Jamie buying food on the train. Listen to how much everything costs.

Assistant: Can I help you?

Jamie: Yes, erm two toasted sandwiches please - one cheese and tomato, one cheese and ham - an orange juice and a coke. How much is that?

Assistant: Two toasted sandwiches, three forty-five each, coke ninety p, orange juice one pound forty, that's nine pounds twenty please.

Tom: Did you notice that she didn't say 'three pounds and forty-five pence'? She said 'three forty-five'. British people often say prices like this. Sometimes they say 'pounds' and sometimes they don't. The woman said 'nine pounds twenty' for the total. You will hear people say prices in both ways. But – it's important to remember that if the price is *only* pounds – when there are no pence in the price, then we *always* say 'pounds'. For example, we can say 'three pounds forty-five', or 'three forty-five' – but we must always say 'three pounds'. Now let's think about the pence. Listen again to the prices.

Assistant: Two toasted sandwiches, three forty-five each, coke ninety p, orange juice one pound forty, that's nine pounds twenty please.

Tom: Did you notice that she didn't say 'pence'? British people don't usually say 'pence'. If the price has pounds first, then we understand that the second number is pence. We don't need to say anything, just the number. But Jamie's coke was 'ninety p'. If the price is only pence, then we say p. It's a short way of saying pence. 'p' means pence.

I'd like to say something else about Carolina and Jamie's conversation. Jamie uses a lot of phrases that are probably new for you. They are phrases that you don't often read in coursebooks or learn in classes. But they're phrases that British people use a lot. Here's an example.

Jamie: There you go – there's the list on the wall. What d'you fancy?

Carolina: Fancy? What do you mean?

Jamie: Sorry. What would you like. What do you fancy means what would you like.

Tom: 'What do you fancy?' is very informal. Carolina doesn't understand so she asks Jamie. She says "What do you mean?". Then Jamie explains that 'What do you fancy' means 'What would you like?'

Here's another example, from Jamie again. Listen for a phrase that's new for you.

Carolina: Do you think I can pay with my visa card? I still haven't got any English money – I lost my bag, and then I nearly missed the train ...

Jamie: Don't worry about it. This one's on me. I'll pay. Have a toasted sandwich – they're good. Cheese and tomato?

Carolina: Cheese with tomato? In a toasted sandwich?

Tom: Jamie says 'This one's on me', which is an informal way of saying 'It's OK, I'm going to pay for this'. Try to remember phrases like this when you notice them. And do what Carolina did – ask 'What do you mean?' if you don't understand.

Now, I've got an interesting word to talk about next. The word is 'stuff'. Listen to Tess speaking and see if you can understand what 'stuff' means.

Tess: And I'm Tess – from London. Hi. Now, as usual we've got loads of great stuff for you to listen to but before we tell you about that; Ravi, I have to ask you, are you feeling better now?

Tom: 'Stuff' just means 'things'. British people use it a lot when they're speaking. Here's another example.

Jamie: I'm going to get a coffee or something.

D'you want anything?

Carolina: Erm, I don't know, what have they got?

Jamie: Come with me then, you can have a look.

They've got sandwiches and stuff too.

Carolina: OK.

Tom: Jamie doesn't want to tell Carolina *all* of the things that she can buy, so he just says 'sandwiches and stuff' – all the other things that they can buy to eat on the train. The next time you listen to a film or a TV programme in English, listen for people saying 'stuff'. I'm sure you'll notice it a lot now.

It's nearly time for me to go, but first, I want to give you a phrase for you to try and use this week. Do you remember the question in today's 'Your Turn'? It was 'Which do you prefer – the book or the film?' Listen to one of the answers.

Voice 3: It depends. It depends on the book. If it's a serious book by a good writer then the book is always better than the film but if it's not a great book – a thriller or something like that – the film can be better than the book

Tom: He says 'It depends'. We talked about 'it depends' in the first podcast. This time 'it depends' means 'I'm not sure because sometimes I have one opinion and sometimes I have a different opinion.' Let's look at how to use it in a sentence. The man says 'it depends on the book'.

Notice the preposition. We say 'it depends *on* something'. So if someone asks you a question, like 'Do you like dogs?' you can say 'Well, it depends on the dog – I like small dogs, but I don't like big ones'. Try to use it this week.

OK. That's all from me today. I'll talk to you all again on the next podcast. Remember you can send your questions to me at learnenglishpodcast@britishcouncil.org. I'll be happy to answer your questions! In a moment you'll hear the address for the website where you can read everything you've heard in this podcast. So bye for now! See you next time.