

Basic Phrases in English



Jo: Please can I have your phone?

Tim: Yes, of course.

Jo: Thank you!

Tim: You're welcome.





Jo: Please can I have your phone?

Please

This is a polite expression when you ask for something.





Tim: Yes, of course.

Of course

This is the same as yes when the answer "yes" is obvious.





Kat: Thank you!

Thank you!

You can also say "thanks". This shows appreciation for something. You can say "thank you so much" to increase the thank you.





Tim: You're welcome.

You're welcome!

This is the response when somebody says "thank you" to show that you accept their thanks.





Liz: Hello! I'm Liz.

Mark: Could you repeat that?

Liz: I'm Liz.

Mark: Hi Liz. Nice to meet you.





Mark: Could you repeat that?

Could you repeat that?

If you want to listen a second time, you can ask this question. The person will say their phrase again.





Mark: Hi Liz. Nice to meet you.

Nice to meet you.

A polite phrase to say when somebody tells you their name. This is only used the first time somebody tells you their name. You can also say "lovely to meet you" or a more formal expression "it's a pleasure to meet you".





Izzy: **Excuse me.** Could you take a picture of us?

Sam: I'm sorry. I don't understand.

Izzy: Never mind.





Izzy: Excuse me.

Excuse me

A polite expression to get the attention of somebody.





Sam:I'm sorry.

I'm sorry

A phrase to apologise for something. You can say "I'm so sorry" to increase the apology.





Sam: I don't understand.

I don't understand

This phrase explains that you have no comprehension. Maybe the language is too difficult or it's a strange accent.





Izzy: Never mind.

Never mind

You can also say "it doesn't matter". These expressions mean that it is not important and you can forget something.





Ken: Let's go to the cinema!

What do you think?

Bella: That sounds great!





Ken: Let's go to the cinema!

Let's

This expression is always followed by a verb (let's + infinitive verb).

This is used to make a suggestion.





Ken: What do you think?

What do you think?

This means "what is your opinion".





Bella: That sounds great!

That sounds great!

This means it is a good idea and the person is interested.





Bob: Excuse me!

Flo: How can I help you?

Bob: Where is the cathedral?

Flo: It's here on the map.

Bob: Thank you. I really appreciate it.



Flo: How can I help you?

How can I help you?

This is a question that offers help to somebody.





Bob: Thank you. I really appreciate it.

I really appreciate it

This is a polite expression after "thank you". This means you are very happy and grateful for somebody's help.





Val: I'm Val and I am your tour guide today.

Jack: Could you speak slower?

Val: Of course! I'm Val.





Jack: Could you speak slower?

Could you speak slower?

If you don't understand because somebody is talking very fast, you can use this expression. This is a polite question to ask somebody to speak slowly.





Lisa: I'm Lisa and I am your tour guide today.

Bruce: Do you have a map?

Lisa: Here you go!

Bruce: Thanks, that helps a lot.

Lisa: No problem.



Lisa: Here you go!

Here you go!

You can use this expression at the same time as giving something to somebody.





Bruce: Thanks, that helps a lot.

That helps a lot

This is an expression to say something was useful and helpful.





Lisa: No problem.

No problem

This is an expression to say you are happy to help with something and it is not a problem for you.





Kelly: There is a message on my phone.

Barry: What does it mean?

Kelly: I don't know.





Barry: What does it mean?

What does it mean?

If you don't understand something, you can ask this question. This asks somebody to help you understand something. You can replace the word "it" too. E.g. "what does this message mean?"





Kelly: I don't know.

I don't know

This means you do not understand something.



