

Everyday English

in **50** days.



pepTALKIndia

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Introduction

PEP TALK INDIA is delighted to present to you the secrets of becoming a master conversationalist with 'Everyday English in 50 Day'. In today's competitive life, your professional success largely depends on your communication skills. "Harvard University research shows that the most successful people in the world attribute 87.5 % of their success to their communication skills or soft skills and only 12.5 % of their success comes from their technical skills or hard skills." This book will prove to be a big asset in your journey to achieve professional accomplishment and personal success. The book is written keeping in mind the learning requirement of every learner who aspires to master daily English conversations without going deep in the rules of grammar and other nitty-gritty of English language. This unique compendium covers almost all range of possible conversations a learner needs to know in order to facilitate easy and fluent communication.

You simply have to master each conversation daily for subsequent 50 days. Don't just read the text, practice it many times out loud so that you can absorb all the useful phrases and grammatical structures used in daily spoken English. If the need be, take the help of any dictionary app on your phone to master the pronunciation of new and difficult words. Over the course of time, you will develop better proficiency in communicative English. And whenever you get a chance, make it a habit to strike a conversation in English with other people in order to polish your skills and build an unshakable confidence while communicating. This magic will not unfold overnight, and you will have to put in your earnest efforts and be patience to see transformation in yourself. Pat your back and congratulate yourself as you have chosen to take up this challenge of improving your communication skills through this book.

PEP TALK INDIA wishes you a wonderful journey ahead.

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AT DOMINOS

Order-taker: Good evening Ma'am, Can I take your order?

Pep-talker: Yes, please. I would like to order one large Margherita.

Order-taker: Yeah, sure. Do you want it with regular crust or cheese burst?

Pep-talker: I want it with cheese burst. In toppings, could you add onion?

Order-taker: Yes ma'am! And I would recommend you Peppy Paneer as well!

Pep-talker: Will it have Mushrooms on it?

Order-taker: The Peppy Paneer does not have mushrooms, but I can customize it and can add mushrooms. However, it will cost a touch extra. Will that do?

Pep-talker: No problem. But please make it medium. Can you also add one Veg Burger pizza and one Garlic Bread?

Order-taker: Yeah sure, would you like a Plain Burger pizza or the Classic one? The latter will have Tomatoes, Paneer and Capsicum.

Pep-talker: I want the Classic one.

Order-taker: Also ma'am, do you want a Stuffed Garlic bread or the Plain one?

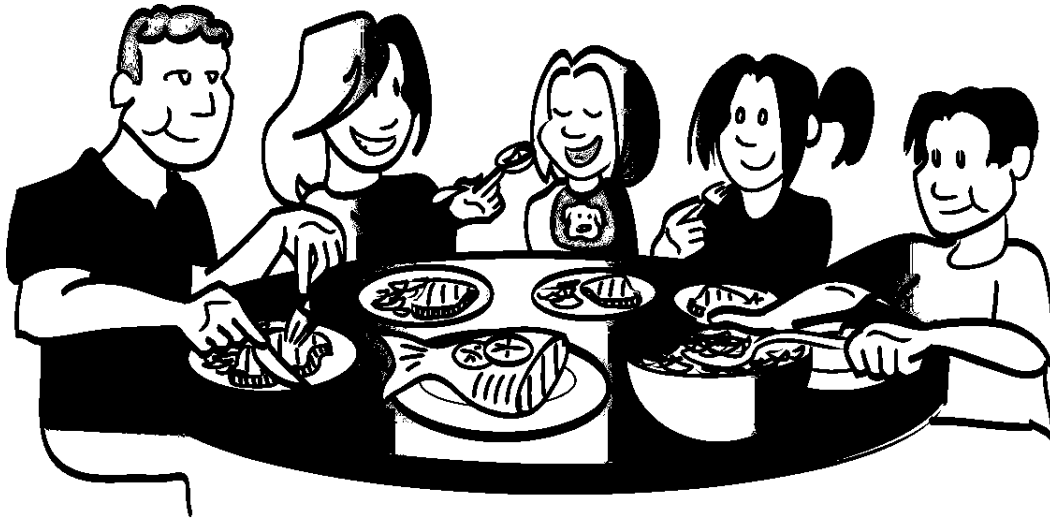
Pep-talker: I want the plain one with a Cheesy dip to go with it.

Order-taker: Ma'am, I will repeat your order. It is large cheese burst Margherita with onion topping, One Medium Peppy Paneer with added Mushrooms, One Classic Veg Burger pizza and one plain Garlic Bread with a cheesy dip. Anything else ma'am?

Pep-talker: Thank you!

Order-taker: Your order will arrive in thirty minutes.

TABLE CONVERSATION

**Saanvi**

I think it's a good restaurant, have you been here before?

Rishi

Yeah, I have been here twice. I like its food, especially the appetizers.

Saanvi

Let's sit over there.

Rishi

OK.

Saanvi

Let's order food.

Rishi

Sure, what would you like to order in the appetizers?

Saanvi

What can we order from the non-veg menu?

Rishi

I prefer Chicken Malai Tikka and Kebabs.

Saanvi

So let's order Chicken Tikka and Mutton Kebabs.

Rishi

Would you like to have wine or any other drink?

Saanvi

I will have a breezer, the Cranberry flavor.

Rishi

OK.

Saanvi

Do you wish to order something else in the starters?

Rishi

Let's order something from the vegetarian menu also, I heard they serve good tandoori chaap here. Would you like it?

Saanvi

If you wanna have it then let's get it.

Rishi

OK, what would you have in the main course?

Saanvi

Are you out of your mind? I don't think we would be able to finish off the appetizers, **let alone** the main course.

Rishi

Yeah, let's see. By the way, how would you rate the ambience of this place?

Saanvi

It looks good and especially the lighting. Let's **check out** the food as well.

Rishi

I am sure you will like that too.

Vocabulary

- **Be out of your mind:** to become crazy
- **Let alone:** used to express that next thing is impossible
- **Check out:** examine something

AT A RESTAURANT: ORDERING A MEAL

Waiter: Hello, I will be your waiter today. Can I start you off with something to drink?

Ana: Yeah, I would like an iced tea.

Maria: What is special in the appetizers?

Waiter: Ma'am, we do have an entire section of roasted and barbeque both in vegetarian and non-vegetarian, which is quite popular with our customers. You can try any of that.

Maria: Okay, I will have Chicken Wings with salsa dip.

Waiter: Can I take the order for the next course now or do you need a few minutes?

Ana: I think we are ready. I will have tomato soup and roasted chicken with mashed potatoes and peas.

Maria: I will just have fish with mashed potatoes and a salad.

Waiter: Would you like to order anything in dessert?

Ana: I will have an apple pie.

Maria: I will have an ice cream sundae.

(After finishing up the meals...)

Ana: Could we have the check please?

Waiter: Sure, in a moment.

Maria: Please **make it snappy**. We have to leave for somewhere real quick. *(Make it quick)*

Waiter: Here is your bill mam.

Ana: Thanks! Here you go (handing the bill amount to the waiter).

Waiter: Thanks a lot ma'am! Have a nice day ahead.

AT A DINNER PARTY



TEENA: Hey, how are you doing?

SAISHA: I am doing well, how about you?

TEENA: I am also fine and doing great, how's your family?

SAISHA: The family is doing well. I am busy with my kids these days as they have got their exams at school.

TEENA: Yeah, kids keep us busy all the time.

SAISHA: How about the vacation you took last month? How was it?

TEENA: Oh, it was great! We participated in many adventure activities and had lots of fun.

SAISHA: Where did you go?

TEENA: We went to Dubai.

SAISHA: It's a beautiful place to go. I went there last year and enjoyed a lot with my family. Did you go to Ferrari World in Abu Dhabi?

TEENA: Yeah, it's one of the most adventurous places I have visited in my life. We had amazing fun there and especially my kids had a gala time at Ferrari World.

SAISHA: What other things you liked there?

TEENA: I liked Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building. It was really mesmerizing to see that building at night. We even went to the top and clicked a lot of selfies there.

SAISHA: Burj Khalifa is indeed a wondrous sight to behold.

TEENA: So, are you planning a vacation this year?

SAISHA: Let's see. My husband and I plan to go to Europe. However, right now we are busy with our family functions at home as there is an upcoming marriage. Therefore it's still undecided.

TEENA: Alright, in fact we are also planning to go there so let's plan it together next year.

SAISHA: Sure, the more, the merrier

TEENA: By the way, where are you doing shopping for the wedding?

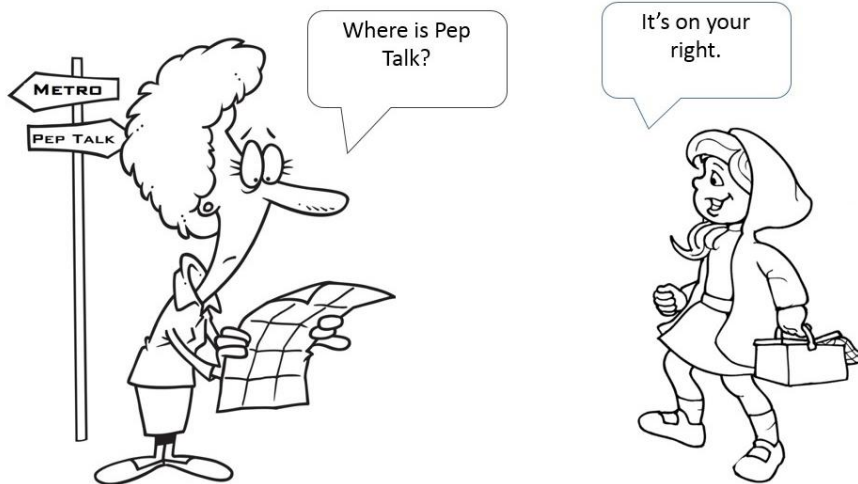
SAISHA: Everything from Frontier Raas at South Ex. It has a fabulous collection of Indian dresses.

TEENA: Okay, can I talk to you later? Something urgent has come up. Bye!

SAISHA: No problem, stay in touch. See you, goodbye!

ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS

How to ask for directions



Kiran: Hey, is it **Pep Talk**?

Receptionist: Yes, it is. How may I help you?

Kiran: Hey, I am Kiran. I wanted to visit your institute. I have just reached Rajouri Garden Metro Station. Could you please tell me which gate should I take an exit from?

Receptionist: Yeah sure, please exit from Gate no. 5.

Kiran: Okay. Thanks! Could you also direct me to the institute after taking the exit?

Receptionist: Sure. After you come out of Gate no. 5, keep walking straight until you see a temple right in the front. From the temple, take a right turn. Then after getting past a couple of buildings, you will see a Raymond's show room on your left. Right **across from** Raymond's show room is **Pep Talk**.

Kiran: Okay. I **copied** that. I will be there **in a jiffy**. Thanks a lot.

VOCABULARY

Across from: Opposite

Copy: To hear or understand someone speaking on phone or radio transmitter.

In a jiffy: very soon

AT AN ELECTRONIC STORE

Salesman: How may I help you?

Customer: Hello! I want to buy an LED TV.

Salesman: Sir, could you please specify me the brand so that it will be easier for me to suggest you the best model available.

Customer: Could you please suggest me some reliable TV brands?

Salesman: Sony is a reliable brand in an electronics world. You will also get a 3-year-warranty on the purchase of Sony products.

Customer: What will be the price of the Sony LED TV?

Salesman: Depends on the size of the TV. 32 inch is for 28000/-, 40 inch is for 32000/-, and 42 inch is for 36000/- only.

CONVERSATION at Electronic Store



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Customer: I think 42 inch will be **the right fit for** the living room.

Salesman: Excellent choice, sir. With this particular model you will also get a 10000 mAh power bank.

Customer: Great. I was planning on buying a power bank too. That's like **an icing on the cake.**

Salesman: So when shall we deliver the product?

Customer: Before planning the delivery, could you please tell me the payment modes?

Salesman: You can pay by card, cash, or cheque.

Customer: Sure, I would like to pay by card.

Salesman: Sure sir, so will you be accepting the delivery today?

Customer: Yes!

Salesman: Ok sir! I will get your product ready. It will take approximately 15 minutes. By that time I will get your warrant card and bill ready.

Customer: Sure.

Salesman: Sir, your product is ready for delivery.

Customer: Thank you so much.

Salesman: Welcome sir, have a nice day ahead.

VOCABULARY

The right fit for: perfect match for something

Icing on the cake: added benefit that makes a thing or situation even better

AT A SERVICE CENTRE

- Executive** Hello sir! How can I help you?
- Customer** Hello! Actually, my phone has been **acting up** since yesterday morning.
- Executive** May I know which handset you are using?
- Customer** Apple iPhone 6s plus.
- Executive** Could you please tell me the problems you are facing currently?
- Customer** I am facing battery and software issues.
- Executive** Can I have a look at your phone?
- Customer** Yeah sure.
- Executive** Please give me 10 minutes. Meanwhile have a seat and some freshly-brewed coffee.
- Customer** Yeah sure.
- Executive** I have **figured out** the problem with your phone. There is a malware in it that is **apparently** responsible for software **glitches**. Is your phone under warranty?
- Customer** Yes, it is under warranty. Can it be fixed without extra cost?
- Executive** Yes definitely. But for that I will have to factory reset your phone.
- Customer** Will my data remain safe or there is a chance of it being deleted?
- Executive** You can take the back up for all your data and sync it through cloud. If you have already done that then there is no need to worry.
- Customer** Actually I haven't done that. Could you please guide me how to back up the phone data?
- Executive** Yeah sure. You just need to create an ID on iCloud or you can use your existing Apple ID as well.
- Customer** Thank you so much. I need 10 to 15 minutes to do that.
- Executive** Sure sir.
- Customer** Done. How long will it take to **fix all the bugs**?
- Executive** It will take at least an hour. Kindly show me your bill.
- Customer** Sure. This is my bill. I will carry on my work and will be back after an hour to collect my handset.
- Executive** Sure sir, just collect your token number from the counter.
- Customer** OK. Thanks.
- Executive** Welcome sir.

VOCABULARY

- **Act up:** - to not work properly
- **Figure out:** - understand something
- **Apparently:** - seemingly
- **Glitches:** - small problems
- **Fix the bugs:** - resolve an issue

AT AN INSTITUTE

Counselor: Hi! Good Morning! How can I help you?

Arpit: Good Morning! I just want to enquire about the courses that you are offering at **Pep Talk**.

Counselor: Yeah sure! We have three different courses. You can go through this pamphlets which lists out the details. I will be back in 5 minutes to further elaborate once you are done.

Arpit: Okay!

Counselor: Could you please tell me your requirements so that I can suggest the best suitable course for you?

Arpit: I want to improve my public speaking skills and I also want an overview of grammar.

Counselor: We have the Super Human Skills course, which will be a perfect fit for you. In this course, we will cover communication skills, interview and job skills, presentation, personality development and showmanship skills.

Arpit: Will I get any book for this course?

Counselor: Instead of focusing on textbooks and theoretical concepts, our courses focus on the practical aspects of communication.

Arpit: Will I get GD sessions because I believe for speaking GD plays an important role?

Counselor: Of course you will be given GD, debates, presentations and speech sessions. That environment will be provided to you so that you can **hone** your public speaking skills.

Arpit: Perfect then! So when can I enroll myself?

Counselor: Let's get to it **without further ado**. Today we will complete your admission formalities and then from tomorrow we will **commence** your first session.

Arpit: Okay! Do you require any documents for that?

Counselor: Yeah! One photograph and a copy of your ID proof would **suffice**.

Arpit: Sorry but I am not carrying my ID proof right now.

Counselor: No worries. You can submit it tomorrow at the reception.

Arpit: Sure I will do that. Thank you.

VOCABULARY in Use

Hone: improve something

Without further ado: without delaying

Commence: begin

Suffice: to be enough

CONVERSATION AT THE BANK



- CUSTOMER** Hi, I need to open an account in your bank. Could you please guide me through the entire process?
- BANK MANAGER** Sure sir, I guide you regarding the formalities to be completed for opening an account.
- CUSTOMER** Could you tell me what all details that are required for that?
- BANK MANAGER** You need to fill 2A form and submit it at counter 5.
- CUSTOMER** What all ID proofs do I need to submit?
- BANK MANAGER** You need to submit one soft copy of your address proof, your electricity bill and your Aadhaar card.
- CUSTOMER** But the electricity bill of my house is on my father's name.
- BANK MANAGER** In that case you can submit your license and previous bank details.
- CUSTOMER** Will my previous bank transaction statement work?
- BANK MANAGER** Yes it will work.
- CUSTOMER** And where I need to submit all my details?
- BANK MANAGER** At the same counter. You need to attach all these details with the form.
- CUSTOMER** How much cash do I need to deposit at the time of opening an account?
- BANK MANAGER** You can deposit minimum Rs. 5000.
- CUSTOMER** Will I get the debit card and the cheque book on the same date?
- BANK MANAGER** No, it will take a week and will be sent to the address mentioned in the form.
- CUSTOMER** OK, sir. Thank you so much.
- BANK MANAGER** You're welcome.

RENTING AN APARTMENT

- TENANT** Hey! Actually I was looking for a flat on rent. So I found your number on MagicBricks. Could you please let me know the details regarding the same?
- LANDLORD** Yes, sure. Could you tell about your preferred location?
- TENANT** I am looking for an accommodation in Rajouri Garden area. As my office is located in Rajouri Garden so I would prefer an apartment in close proximity.
- LANDLORD** OK. I have a flat in A-block. It's near Rajouri main market.
- TENANT** That's perfect.
- LANDLORD** It's a 2 BHK apartment with modular kitchen. There is a balcony and an attached washroom.
- TENANT** What about water supply and electricity?
- LANDLORD** It has 24x7 electricity backup and water supply.
- TENANT** What about rent?
- LANDLORD** It will cost you Rs. 25000 per month plus 5000 security.
- TENANT** The rent is exorbitantly high. Is the rent negotiable?
- LANDLORD** That won't be possible on my part.
- TENANT** Actually I have recently shifted to Delhi and have to take care of a lot of things. So I would be very grateful to you if could please negotiate the rent.
- LANDLORD** I can make it up to 22000/- per month, but not below that.
- TENANT** Yes, that's seems to be fair. Thank you so much for your consideration. So when can I come to see the flat and finalize everything?
- LANDLORD** You can come today by 5 o' clock.
- TENANT** Is it possible tomorrow?
- LANDLORD** Tomorrow at what time?
- TENANT** Tomorrow in the morning. So that I can finalized everything and shift as well.
- LANDLORD** Tomorrow at 11 o' clock then?
- TENANT** Yes that would be fine.
- LANDLORD** OK, then see you tomorrow at 11.
- TENANT** Could you please text me the exact location?
- LANDLORD** Sure I will text you the address.
- TENANT** Thank you so much.

CONVERSATION WITH INTERIOR DESIGNER

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Interior designer | Hello. |
| Jasmine | Hello. |
| Interior designer | Yes please. |
| Jasmine | I got your number from the internet. I am looking for an interior designer to design my house. Will you be able to help me with that? |
| Interior designer | Yeah sure. Could you please tell me where are you calling from? |
| Jasmine | I am calling from Delhi. |
| Interior designer | OK. I would like to know which section of your house is to be designed. |
| Jasmine | I am planning to get my kitchen area redesigned. |
| Interior designer | How big is that area? I need the details so that I can plan accordingly. |
| Jasmine | The area is about 100 sq. ft. |
| Interior designer | So how do you want to get it designed? |
| Jasmine | Actually I am planning to take my room area itself in kitchen so that it gets bigger. And I want an open kitchen. |
| Interior designer | Sure I will help you with that. But for that I need to visit your house first. |
| Jasmine | Sure I will text you the address on the same number. |
| Interior designer | Sure. |
| Jasmine | When can I expect your visit? |
| Interior designer | I will visit your place next Saturday. |
| Jasmine | That's absolutely fine. Bye. |
| Interior designer | Bye. |

AT POLICE STATION: FILING AN FIR



ENGLISH CONVERSATION

TALKING TO A COP



PEPTALK INDIA

- POLICE OFFICER** Hello, please be seated. How can I help you?
- Shekhar** Hello, I have to file an FIR against a burglary that happened at my home last night.
- POLICE OFFICER** May I know your name and address please?
- Shekhar** I am Shekar Kapoor and I reside at
- POLICE OFFICER** Where were you when the burglary took place?
- Shekhar** I was fast asleep. My wife and two kids were also sleeping
- POLICE OFFICER** How much cash has been stolen?
- Shekhar** Sir, 5 Lakhs.
- POLICE OFFICER** And how much was the jewelry worth?
- Shekhar** Sir, around 3 Lakhs.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Police Officer | How did the burglar enter the house? |
| Shekhar | Sir, the burglar would have jumped over to our balcony from the house adjacent to ours, because that is the only way possible from to enter. In the morning when I woke up I found the balcony door wide open and the window pane near the door was broken. The coffer was empty too. He would have jumped over from the other house, broken the window pane, opened the inside lock maybe using a master key and taken away everything. |
| Police Officer | How fast were you all sleeping as to not to even hear someone breaking the window pane? |
| Shekhar: | Sorry sir, but we had returned home late last night from a wedding of a close friend and were very tired. My wife had herself put the jewelry back to the coffer after taking them off and everything was alright by then. We slept as soon as we hit the bed. Kids were sleeping in their room. We did not hear any sound at all. |
| Police Officer | May be the burglar would have come following and was a known person from the wedding place. |
| Shekhar | Anything could happen sir. I cannot rule out any possibility. |
| Police Officer | Do you suspect anybody? |
| Shekhar | No sir. I have no animosity with anyone in the town or anywhere in the world. |
| Police Officer | Are you under any financial debt like a loan or something from any bank? |
| Shekar | No sir. I have no debt on my head. I am a smalltime businessman. I deal in manufacturing and distribution of coffee machines. |
| Police Officer | I am sending my constables with you at your home to inspect the house and collect any evidence if left behind. Do come back here with them when they are done inspecting. I will hand you a copy of FIR then. |
| Shekhar (sobbing) | Sir, is there any possibility that we could get back what we have lost? |
| Police Officer | Do not worry. Let us do our work. Please cooperate well and we will soon nab the culprit. |

VOCABULARY

Coffer: A strongbox or chest for storing valuables.

Smalltime: Minor, small-scale.

Crybaby: A person, especially a child who sheds tears frequently.

COURTROOM CONVERSATION



LAWYER 1 We have a matter lined up for the dowry case.

JUDGE Yes, please put forth your case.

LAWYER 1 My client has been accused of demanding dowry. But he has been wrongly accused.

JUDGE That will be decided later. To arrive at an impartial judgment, I need to hear facts of the case from both the parties.

LAWYER 1 Sure. But before we proceed, I would like to request you to move the date for the hearing to next week as I will be busy with another case at the Supreme Court.

JUDGE For that you need to provide the written notice to me and to the lawyer of the opposing party.

LAWYER 1 Sure my lord. I have already dispatched one copy to the concerned entity.

JUDGE After receiving the approval from the plaintiff's lawyer, I will decide upon the next date of hearing.

LAWYER 1 Thank you milord for your consideration.

JUDGE Does the **plaintiff's** lawyer have something to say on the behalf of her client?

LAWYER 2 Yes my lord. My client was harassed for dowry by her in-laws since the very next day of her marriage. She was also physically assaulted by her husband and his family repeatedly.

- LAWYER 1** I object my lord. They just had a verbal fight on a trivial domestic issue.
- LAWYER 2** They just had a normal fight and she got badly injured. Isn't that shockingly **astonishing**?
- LAWYER 1** No that's not true.
- LAWYER 2** Oh please! Your client is an **unruly** man and he belongs in a prison.
- JUDGE** Order! Order! Both the lawyers calm down and maintain the decorum of court. I will hear both the sides in next hearing. Till that time court is **adjourned**.

VOCABULARY IN USE

Plaintiff – person who levels charges against another person

Trivial - not important

Astonishing – very surprising

Unruly – uncontrollable, wild

Adjourned – to stop an official proceeding

AT DESIGN STUDIO

JULIE: Hello, I need to see Martha, the dress designer.

DESIGNER: Yes, I am Martha. Please tell how I can help you.

JULIE: Oh so sorry, I didn't recognize you. You look quite different from the ad in the magazine. Actually, this is my first visit to your boutique.

DESIGNER: No problem. How did you come to know about this place?

JULIE: From a friend of mine, Maria. She is an old client of yours. She talks a lot about your work.

DESIGNER: Oh! I guess I remember her. Maria from Park Street?

JULIE: Yes exactly. We are from the same college. She is my fellow bencher.

DESIGNER: Okay. She often comes here. She has a very **eclectic** taste in clothing. She has always been a very challenging customer because her demands are all out-of-the-world always. Anyway tell me, how can I help you?

JULIE: I just want to say that I am really having a very difficult time to keep up with what is **in vogue** nowadays. My friends say that I have a terrible sense of dressing, as well as mixing and matching my outfits. I have always bought clothes **off the peg**. This is the first time I am out to get my dresses designed and I want to change my wardrobe completely this time.

DESIGNER: Well dear, I always tell my clients that it is not a good thing to become a slave to fashion and blindly try to keep up with what is in the trend. Wear what you are the most comfortable with and what you can carry all day long without having to worry about having a scene of wardrobe malfunction. People come to me from all walks of life with almost a very similar demand – *"I want to wear the same cloth that JLo (Jennifer Lopez) has worn in the song 'Dance again'"* or *"I need the same outfit of Anne Hathway from movie 'The Devil Wears Prada'"*

DESIGNER: And trust me when I say this, these are the same people who after getting their dresses stitched, gripe in full disgust *"Oh my god, this dress is so see-through, how can I wear it?"* or *"This dress is so tight that I even fear breathing in them."*

JULIE: Okay. I got your point. Well I am not going to make such a demand. I am not that fashion **savvy anyway**. I am more like a fashion illiterate person. I just want to get some smart clothes to go with my personality well and which are timeless in style. I don't want to wander around the block looking like a mannequin model or a pin-up chick of fashion world.

DESIGNER: Glad to hear that. Well, I will surely help you find the right kind of dresses for you which will not only help you shield the shortcomings of your body structure but will also add to your personality.

JULIE: That is exactly what I wanted to hear. Thanks a lot!

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

Eclectic: Deriving ideas, style or taste from a diverse range of sources.

In vogue: In fashion.

Off the peg: Ready-made (used for clothes mostly)

Savvy: Knowledgeable of something.

Mannequin model: A dummy or a person used to display clothes to customers.

Pin-up chick: Poster girl.

AT A HOTEL

Receptionist: Good Morning! How can I *assist you*?

Guest: Good Morning. Actually I was looking for a room in your hotel. Can you provide me information regarding that?

Receptionist: Sure ma'am. We have a room which will cost you INR 1800 per day. You will get complimentary breakfast and dinner.

Guest: Is the price negotiable?

Receptionist: If you pay by debit or credit card, you will get a 10% cash back.

Guest: Will I get discount on online booking?

Receptionist: Yes sir you will get a 15% discount if you book through our app.

Guest: So how much do I have to *shell out*?

Receptionist: It will cost you around INR 1530 plus taxes per day

Guest: OK.

Receptionist: How long are you planning your stay?

Guest: For a week.

Receptionist: And when is your expected check-in date?

Guest: Today.

Receptionist: Sir you have to pay 2 days advance at the time of check-in.

Guest: Why so?

Receptionist: Sir this is the policy of our hotel and we have to *adhere to* it.

Guest: OK, no problem. But before the check-in could you please show me the room.

Receptionist: Sure Sir.

VOCABULARY

Shell out: pay for something

Adhere to: obey

CONVERSATION at Airport Check-in Counter



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Agent: | A very Good Morning Sir! |
| Passenger: | Good Moring! |
| Agent: | What's your destination, Sir? |
| Passenger: | Kuala Lumpur |
| Agent: | Could I have your passport, please? |
| Passenger: | Here you go. |
| Agent: | Are you checking any bags? |
| Passenger: | Just this one. |
| Agent: | OK, please place your bag on the scale. |
| Passenger: | I have a stopover in Hyderabad. Do I have to pick my luggage there? |
| Agent: | No, it will go straight through to Kuala Lumpur. Here are your boarding passes. Your flight leaves from gate 15A and it will begin boarding at 3:20. Your seat number is 26E. |
| Passenger: | Thank you so much. |

(After boarding the plane)

- Air Hostess:** Hello sir!
- Passenger:** Hello!
- Air Hostess:** Would you like chicken or pasta?
- Passenger:** I will have chicken.
- Air Hostess:** Anything to drink?
- Passenger:** What kind of soda do you have?
- Air Hostess:** Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Orange and Dr. Pepper.
- Passenger:** I want a diet coke.
- Air Hostess:** With ice or without ice?
- Passenger:** Without ice.
- Air Hostess:** Here you go.
- Passenger:** Thanks.
- Air Hostess:** Would you like to have anything else, sir?
- Passenger:** Yes please, can I have a pillow?
- Air Hostess:** Sure sir.
- Passenger:** Could I also get a pair of head phones?
- Air Hostess:** Of course, sir.
- Passenger:** Thank you so much.

PLANNING A TRIP



CUSTOMER: Good morning, I am thinking to go for a vacation this year with my family. Can you suggest a great destination for the vacation and the expenses?

TRAVEL AGENT: Good morning sir, I will give you the complete information. When are you planning to go? Do you want to go somewhere in India or abroad?

CUSTOMER: I want to go abroad and preferably to Europe. I am thinking to take my family during the summer holidays as the kids will be free. Please let me know a place which can be visited during this time and has the best weather.

TRAVEL AGENT: There are many places you can travel in the month of May-June. One of them is definitely Europe, the season is amazingly good as the climate is neither very cold nor too hot.

CUSTOMER: Which all countries should be added in the package if I opt for Europe?

TRAVEL AGENT: You can add Switzerland, Italy, France and Venice to your package, they are the best places to visit in Europe. Also, I can add London to your package. However, there will be additional costs for that.

CUSTOMER: Is there any other place I can go to besides Europe?

TRAVEL AGENT: If you want to go to Asian countries, you can try Thailand and even Singapore and Malaysia.

CUSTOMER: What would be the cost of all the packages?

TRAVEL AGENT: Singapore Malaysia and cruise package wouldn't cost you much, it would be under Rs. 70,000 per person for 6-7 days. If you opt for Australia, it would cost you over Rs. 1,20,000 per person for 6-7 days. The package to Europe would cost you around Rs. 1,60,000 for 7-8 days.

CUSTOMER: That's **outrageous!** That would **cost me an arm and a leg.** We are six people in a family. If I choose the Europe package, that would be way too **steep.**

TRAVEL AGENT: Have you ever gone to Singapore and Malaysia?

CUSTOMER: No, I have never been there.

TRAVEL AGENT: Then I would suggest you to opt for Singapore and Malaysia as the package is cost effective and is also clubbed with cruise. You can experience **best of both the worlds.**

CUSTOMER: I am finding this one **enticing.** Can you please share the best price for this package?

TRAVEL AGENT: Sir, I have shared the best price. However, the prices may vary in accordance with the hotels and cruise rooms.

CUSTOMER: Please give me the rates for four star hotels. Also I want the balcony room in the cruise.

TRAVEL AGENT: No problem sir, I will mail the best quotation to you shortly.

CUSTOMER: Thanks a ton for your assistance.

TRAVEL AGENT: Thanks sir.

VOCABULARY

Best of both the worlds: Enjoying the advantages of two different things at the same time

Enticing: Attractive

Outrageous: shocking

Cost an arm and a leg: Very expensive

Steep: too high, unreasonable

ON A CITY TOUR



Tour Guide

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Guide | Hi, I am your guide who will be helping you explore the city of Delhi today. |
| Tourist | Yes, I am looking forward to it. |
| Guide | This is the heart of Delhi which is also known as CP. |
| Tourist | Could you please tell me the full form of CP? |
| Guide | Connaught Place. |
| Tourist | What's so special about this place? |
| Guide | It's the best place to hang out. A place where you can get almost everything under the sun . It's not only a commercial hub but a transportation hub as well. |
| Tourist | Is this place good for shopping also? |
| Guide | Yes! Here you can get all the cool and chic items which are all the rage in this part of the world. |
| Tourist | Is there any shop famous for clothes? |
| Guide | Yes. Shop no. 36 near west block is very famous for clothes. |

Tourist What kind of clothes will I get there?

Guide Ethnic as well as western clothes. You can choose from diverse and **disparate** collection.

Tourist Is there any place where I can click a lot of awesome pictures?

Guide Yup! The inner circle of CP is the best setting for photo-shoot.

Tourist Wow. Why is that?

Guide The surroundings are great. There is a central park where you can sit for hours and **let your hair down**. And you can also **train your camera on** our national flag which is right in the middle of that park to get breathtaking pictures.

Tourist That's marvelous. Could you please guide me there?

Guide Yeah sure.

VOCABULARY

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Chic | fashionable |
| All the rage | very popular |
| Disparate | consisting of different things |
| Let your hair down | relax and enjoy yourself |
| Train your camera on | aim your camera on something |

TAKING A FAMILY VACATION

| | |
|----------|---|
| FATHER | It's been really long since we all have taken a trip together. |
| SON | Dad, let's plan something for this summer. |
| DAUGHTER | How about Goa? That is a really wonderful place to visit, I've heard. |
| FATHER | Goa? |
| MOTHER | No, no, no, we're not going to Goa. We will go to an idyllic and tranquil place where we can relax and find peace. |
| DAUGHTER | Really, mom? If we want peace, we can get enough of that sitting at home too. Dad let's go to some happening place where we can actually have fun and frolic . |
| SON | Let's go to some adventure place. Where we can do paragliding, sky diving and lot more. |
| DAUGHTER | You are gonna do skydiving? Oh please! |
| SON | Yes, of course. I am cut out for that. |
| FATHER | OK, let's go to Dharamshala. It offers a serene milieu , mesmerizing locales, and we all can have an ace time . |
| MOTHER | Dharamshala? We have already visited it earlier. |
| CHILDREN | But mother, we haven't experienced it. |
| MOTHER | Ok then, let's go. I will go and get started with packing. |
| CHILDREN | Yippee! Love you mom. That's going to be the best trip ever. |
| FATHER | I will book the flight tickets and hotel. |
| MOTHER | Instead of hotels let's stay in tents. |
| SON | Yeah mom, it will be a hell of an experience. |
| DAUGHTER | Yes dad, it will be very exciting. |
| FATHER | Okay then! Dharamshala it is then. |

VOCABULARY

Idyllic - beautiful and peaceful

Tranquil - quiet and peaceful

Frolic - enjoyable activity

TAKING A BUS

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Passenger | Hello! |
| Conductor | Hello Sir! |
| Passenger | Does this bus go to Dwarka? |
| Conductor | Yes sir, it does. Please get on board . |
| Passenger | Thank you. |
| Conductor | Which sector do you want to go? |
| Passenger | Dwarka sector 6. |
| Conductor | OK. |
| Passenger | Is this the same route you cover daily? |
| Conductor | Yes. |
| Passenger | What's the morning time of your bus? |
| Conductor | It's 9 o'clock. |
| Passenger | Sharp 9? |
| Conductor | Yes. Sometimes due to traffic there is delay of 5 minutes but more often than not we are on time. |
| Passenger | Every morning at 9 I have to catch a bus for office. Mostly buses get late so could you please pick me up every day at 9? |
| Conductor | Sure sir. You can also get your monthly pass made for just Rs. 200. Using pass you can travel free for a month. |
| Passenger | Yes, that's perfect. Can I get it made right away? |
| Conductor | Yes! Of course sir. I will make it in no time . |

VOCABULARY

Get on board – board a bus, train or plane

More often than not – usually

In no time – immediately

About TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

| | |
|--------------|---|
| RAVI | Hey man. <i>How's life?</i> |
| UMESH | <i>It's all good.</i> How's it going? |
| RAVI | Well, you know what? <i>I ran into</i> Javed yesterday and he's going to be <i>holidaying</i> in Europe. Actually, he says he would be gone for three months. |
| UMESH | Wow! That's amazing. He would be spending three months at exotic destinations and locales. |
| RAVI | Yeah, he's gonna spend his vacation in three countries – Denmark, Switzerland and Spain. |
| UMESH | Three Euro nations, that's my <i>bucket list</i> . |
| RAVI | Let's hope you also fulfill your bucket list pretty soon. |
| UMESH | Yeah, I hope so. <i>Have you been to</i> Europe? |
| RAVI | Europe's awesome. I guess.... did I tell you I spent 4 months in Spain? Back then I was working on a project. |
| UMESH | Really, <i>get out of here</i> . You sly dog, you <i>never said anything about</i> Spain! |
| RAVI | Oh damn.... I never told you. I spent an entire summer in Barcelona and Seville. |
| UMESH | Oh, nice. How was the whole experience? |
| RAVI | The experience was just <i>out of this world</i> . I learnt some Spanish as well. |
| UMESH | That's great. |

Ravi: Yeah, and you know what, now when I look back and think that was the best trip ever. I met some interesting people there. *I hooked up with* an American friend in Seville who used to come to Spanish class. She showed me around and we had great time

Umesh: Dude, you never mentioned this before.

Ravi: Yeah, well, I thought it wasn't *a big deal*.

Umesh: Well, it's easy for you to say.

Ravi: You know, the most exciting thing I did was – sky diving. It's *super scary* and totally crazy.

Umesh: Yeah, I can only imagine.

Ravi: Yeah, when you're up in the air, you have this total sense of freedom. Everything **vanishes** in the face of death. I **broke out in a cold sweat** but I did it anyways. I would love to try it again sometime.

Umesh: This time we both gonna try it together **in tandem**.

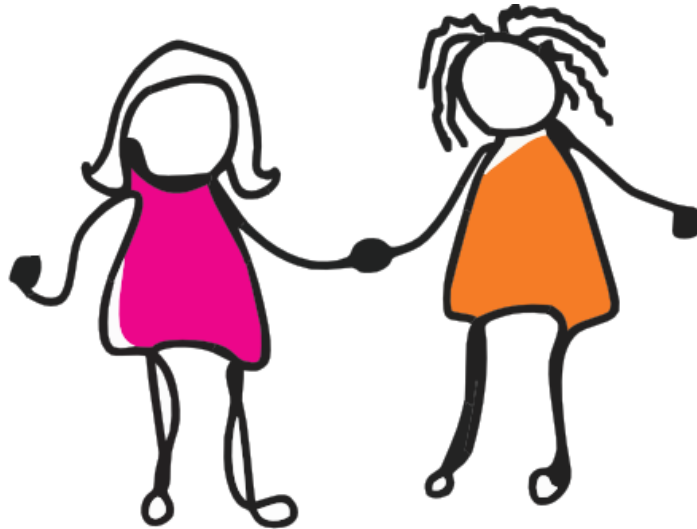
Ravi: Sure man. I am kind of excited about it.

- Umesh** Me too. I am **all psyched up for** adventure sports.
- Ravi** Yeah, you should never miss out on such a **thrilling** opportunity.
- Umesh** So, let's plan something this month. My schedule is wide open.
- Ravi** Sure, I will give a call once I **firm up the details**.
- Umesh** That's cool. See you.
- Ravi** **Adios mi amigo**.
- Umesh** Ah, Spanish. **Si Amigo**. [Laughs]

Vocabulary & Phrases

- **Run into someone** – to meet somebody by chance
- **Bucket list** – a list of things you'd like to do before you die
- **Get out of here** – interjection used to express disbelief
- **Out of this world** – extremely enjoyable or impressive
- **Hooked up with someone** – form a relationship
- **In a cold blood** – a state of extreme worry and fear
- **Psyched up for** – to prepare mentally

AT A MOVIE THEATRE



- Angel:** Hi dear, where are you right now? Don't you know that we were supposed to go and watch the movie? I got the movie tickets booked online and the show has already begun.
- Priya:** I am just leaving **Pep Talk India**, there was a **hold-up**.
- Angel:** You are always late whenever we plan something.
- Priya:** I am regrettably sorry, I would reach there in 10 minutes.
- Angel:** Where have you reached now?

(After 20 minutes)

Priya: I am almost there, don't lose your calm.

Angel: It has been more than twenty minutes that we have last talked, where are you?

Priya: There is a lot of traffic on the flyover because of DMRC construction. I am really sorry. You can go inside the movie hall and I will join you **as and when** I would come.

Angel: I knew you would **back out** at the last moment. From next time I will never make a plan with you.

Priya: Who is saying that I am backing out, I am coming over. It would just take 5 -10 more minutes.

(After Priya reaches PVR cinemas)

Priya: You are really **in a black mood**. I am very sorry that I have got late.

Angel: You should be.

Priya: Shall I order anything for you?

Angel: Please order something for me, I am completely **famished**.

Priya: What would you have?

Angel: Please get anything from the non-veg menu... just ask if they have chicken burger?

Priya: Yes, they offer good chicken burgers here. Do you want a hot dog? They serve yummy hotdogs here.

Angel: Okay, I will have one hotdog as well. Now don't try to **make up** so much **for** coming late.

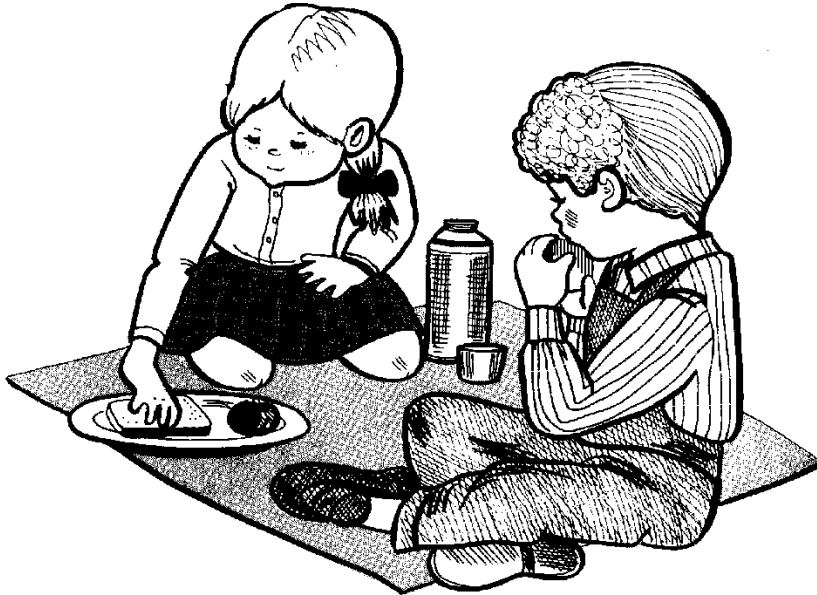
Priya: Okay, I am sorry again. Come on, let's watch the movie now.

Angel: Sure.

VOCABULARY & PHRASES

- **Hold-up:** delay
- **As and when:** as soon as possible
- **Back out:** Not keep a promise or deal
- **In a black mood:** Very angry
- **Famished:** Extremely hungry
- **Make up for something:** compensate for something

PLANNING A PICNIC



Omisha: Hi, how have you been?

Ankit: I am doing great, how are you?

Omisha: I am also good, let's plan a get-together next weekend.

Ankit: Oh, that's a fabulous idea! How about planning for a picnic?

Omisha: It sounds like a fun weekend. One of my friends went to Botanix Nature Resort last month with his family and really enjoyed there.

Ankit: Where is this resort? I have never heard about it

Omisha: It is around 50 km from Delhi and is built in a thirty acres park. It's a place full of adventure sports. What do you say?

Ankit: It seems like a real good place, Let me discuss it with other friends and by this weekend we would **take a call**.

Omisha: What about food?

Ankit: Do we get food there?

Omisha: Yeah, of course, however I will **apprise you**.

- Ankit:** At what time should we leave?
- Omisha:** I guess we should leave early morning so that we can enjoy all the activities.
- Ankit:** You are absolutely right, let's decide about other things among everyone and accordingly reach a decision.
- Omisha:** Please do ask everyone to get their swimwear along as the resort offers opportunities for water sports. We can have **an ace time** there.
- Ankit:** Sweet! I will get the Badminton rackets and the football too.
- Omisha:** Wow! We gonna have unlimited fun there, so let's roll.

VOCABULARY

Take a call: decide something

Apprise: inform somebody

Ace time: very good time

INVITING A FRIEND TO BIRTHDAY PARTY

Anshul: Hey, "What's up?" **Long time no see!**

Neha: Yeah, it's been really a long time.

Anshul: How are you doing?

Neha: I am doing great, how about you?

Anshul: I am fantastic. How's everything? What's keeping you busy these days?

Neha: I have totally **immersed myself with** office work. Anyway, your birthday is coming up next month so where's the party?

Anshul: Oh, I am glad that you remember it.

Neha: Come on! We are great friends. Aren't we?

Anshul: Certainly, we are. This is the reason I have called you here to invite you to my birthday party next month.

Neha: That's great! So where is the party?

Anshul: It is at Ambrosia Bliss at CP on the 7th Nov. The party will begin at 8 in the evening. Our entire school batch is coming, so prepare yourself for some real fun!

Neha: Fantastic! It will be great fun meeting with the old friends after so long.

Anshul: Yeah, It will be like a grand reunion for all of us.

Neha: Yeah, you are right!

Anshul: Don't **chalk out** any other plan that day. Mark this day in your calendar as important. Also, don't forget to bring my birthday gift.

Neha: Definitely!

Anshul: Just kidding! Please be on time that day.

Neha: Don't worry! I will try and come in time.

VOCABULARY

- **Long time no see:** expression to greet someone you are meeting after long time
- **Immerse yourself:** completely involve in some activity
- **Chalk out:** to outline

TALKING ABOUT THE WEEKEND

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Abir | Hey, last night my friend saw you at the party. |
| Sharanya | Yup, I went with my friends. |
| Abir | So, how was it? |
| Sharanya | Actually it was a Sufi night. |
| Abir | It must have been mind-numbing , listening to Qawwalis. |
| Sharanya | Are you kidding? Actually no Qawwalis were being played, there was a DJ playing Sufi songs and everyone enjoyed it. |
| Abir | Can you tell me one such place where Sufi songs are played? |
| Sharanya | I know one place, it's One Boulevard at Saket, they conduct Sufi nights every week and the ambience is very rejuvenating . Go and attend one. |
| Abir | I would definitely attend one of them, so will you come along? |
| Sharanya | I might come, let's plan accordingly. |
| Abir | Should I ask my friends? |
| Sharanya | Sure, the more the merrier . |
| Abir | Alright, let's plan over this weekend. |
| Sharanya | Not this one, I am busy this weekend, may be the next one. |
| Abir | No problem, let's meet next weekend and accordingly we will plan. |
| Sharanya | Yeah sure! |

VOCABULARY

Mind-numbing – very boring

Rejuvenating – more lively

The more the merrier – more people there are better the situation will be

ASKING FOR FAVOUR

AMIT Yo roomie! Did I startle you?

FARAH Holy cow! Of course yes. You scared the hell out of me.

AMIT ***My bad!*** Hahaha [laughs]

FARAH Not funny at all.

AMIT Okay! What are you doing?

FARAH I am reading a novel by Dan Brown. It's rather ***gripping***. (*exciting*)

AMIT That's wonderful. Actually I came to ask you that I am going to supermarket and whether you need anything.

FARAH No. Not really.

AMIT Are you sure?

FARAH Yeah. But ***could you do me a favour?***

AMIT No problem. What's it?

FARAH Can you please pick up my clothes from dry cleaners?

AMIT Yeah, sure. No problem at all.

FARAH Thanks a lot. There is one more thing. Actually there are two.

AMIT Yeah. Go ahead.

FARAH ***Would you mind going*** to Street Food Café and get me pasta?

AMIT Definitely. I will do that. What else?

FARAH Once you come back, ***could you lend me a hand*** in moving the furniture as you promised?

AMIT ***I'm afraid I can't.*** (*Refusing a favour*)

FARAH Oh, I guess I am asking too much.

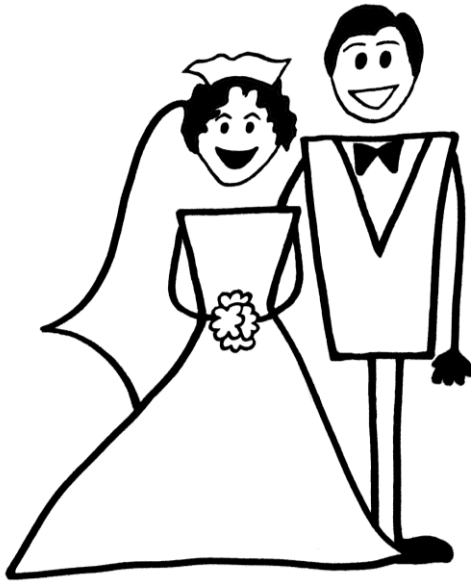
AMIT Silly! I am just kidding. ***I will help you out*** for sure. (*Granting a favour*)

FARAH Thanks so much.

AMIT Please don't mention it. I must leave now otherwise I will be late.

FARAH See you soon.

AMIT Adios!

TALKING ABOUT WEDDING

- Jai:** Hey, Sameer, how's it going?
- Sameer:** Hey, what's going on? Not much.
- Jai:** Man, I don't think I've seen you in probably like six months.
- Sameer:** Yeah, because you're such a lousy friend. You didn't even care to call once in a while.
- Jai:** Where have you been hiding?
- Sameer:** I don't know, **long time no see** though. I will **make amends**.
- Jai:** Yeah, that's cool.
- Sameer:** How have you been?
- Jai:** Yeah, I'm doing pretty well. You know what, I haven't seen you since Ravi's promotion party.
- Sameer:** Actually, I have been busy.
- Jai:** What exactly kept you busy? You didn't even attend my birthday party. I can't believe **you didn't make it**.
- Sameer:** I told you the only reason I didn't make it is because at that time I was busy with the project. I **was bummed** about it.
- Jai:** Well you **messed out on** all the fun with friends.
- Sameer:** Yeah, yeah, I know. I'm **really bummed** that I missed the chance to meet your family and friends.
- Jai:** We had a good time.
- Sameer:** That's great. I have some news that will make you less **furious**.

- Jai:** Yeah. What's that?
- Sameer:** You **would be more than happy to know** that I am getting married next month.
- Jai:** Wow, that absolutely fantastic news. Who's the lucky girl?
- Sameer:** Do you remember Anjali? The girl I met in Mumbai?
- Jai:** Yeah. So how long have you known each other before you guys decided to **tie the knot**.
- Sameer:** It's been four years.
- Jai:** Four years, wow, **time flies**.
- Sameer:** Yeah, but it was **totally worth it**.
- Jai:** I'm glad that it **all worked out well** for you guys. So when is it gonna happen?
- Sameer:** We are planning to have the wedding on 12th March.
- Jai:** That's great. It's a definitive yes from my side. I will be there.
- Sameer:** Sure. It's a kind of small gathering of close relatives and friends. Nothing **ostentatious**.
- Jai:** That's cool, who else is coming?
- Sameer:** I am not sure yet and wedding cards are still getting printed **as we speak**.
- Jai:** We'll have a blast.
- Sameer:** Alright man, I must run now. I have got **too much on my plate** right now.
- Jai:** Yeah, I can understand that. See you.
- Sameer:** Alright, ciao.
- Jai:** Bye.

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Make amends | to compensate for something |
| Bummed about | to feel upset |
| Missed out on something | fail to take part in some activity |
| Tie the knot | get married |
| Ostentatious | expensive, flashy |
| As we speak | at the very moment |
| Too much on my plate | to deal with many things |

IN AN INTERVIEW

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Candidate | May I come in? |
| Interviewer | Yes, Come in |
| Candidate | Good Morning |
| Interviewer | How are you? What is your name? |
| Candidate | My name is Anshul Verma |
| Interviewer | What post have you applied for? |
| Candidate | I have applied for the position of Relationship Manager. |
| Interviewer | Where are you working right now? |
| Candidate | I am working at Radisson at Gurgaon. |
| Interviewer | Why do you want to switch? |
| Candidate | I have been working here for two years now and I am looking forward to a bigger and a better change. I want to grow further in my career and learn more. |
| Interviewer | Why do you think you should be offered this job? |
| Candidate | Customer handling at hotels requires you to be extremely hospitable, and my primary goal is to be very polite and helpful with all the customers I come across. |
| Interviewer | If you are given a situation where the client is very rude to you, what will you do? And how will you react? |
| Candidate | I will always be polite with every customer I meet. However, if I find that the other person seems very rude I will still be polite and will try to solve his query in best possible manner. |
| Interviewer | Your job will require you to work for long hours and even at night? Are you ready to take the challenges? |
| Candidate | I want to excel in the Hospitality industry and working in your organization will be a great delight and honor for me. I will take up every challenge. |
| Interviewer | You sound really confident, it has been nice talking to you. Our organization will get back to you in some time if you get selected for the next round of interview. Thank you. |
| Candidate | It has been a great pleasure coming here and talking to you. Look forward to working with your organization. Thank you. |

ABOUT OFFICE POLITICS

ANSHUL Hi, what's up?

JHALAK I am good, it's lovely to see you.

ANSHUL Yeah, it's been a long time since we met. How is everything at your end?

JHALAK You are right, it's been actually very long. I am doing great, however I have been very busy in my life. I **have a lot on my plate** these days.

ANSHUL What's keeping you busy?

JHALAK My office work keeps me busy all the time, I am working even on weekends. Besides my office, I have also just gotten into English and Personality development course from www.peptalkindia.com. So I have got **too many irons in the fire**.

ANSHUL How is the course? I have also heard a lot about it. Is it really helping you?

JHALAK Yeah, It's really good, I am gradually transforming into a confident speaker because of **Pep Talk**.

ANSHUL That's good. By the way, where do you work and where is your work place?

JHALAK I have been working in Synergies Solutions at Gurgaon for two years now and it has really helped me to grow. How about your work?

ANSHUL Oh, what a coincidence. I also work at Citibank at Gurgaon near IFFCO Chowk, it takes around 1 hour to reach office from my place. Where in Gurgaon?

JHALAK I also work at Gurgaon but my office is near Kingdom of Dreams. How's your work?

ANSHUL I am also doing good. However, there is too much politics in the office as one of my colleagues in office is my boss's **Apple Polisher** so it's very difficult to **cope up** in such an atmosphere.

JHALAK Yeah, that happens everywhere. Office without politics is rarely seen anywhere. By the way, where do you work and where is it?

ANSHUL I have been in Citibank for five long years and now I would change the company as I have recently got a really good opportunity.

JHALAK That's great, which company?

ANSHUL I have got an offer from Accenture lately and they are offering double the salary with extra perks. So, I will be joining them next month.

JHALAK All the best for the new company, I will take your leave as I have to go back home. I am very pleased to meet you, see you soon. Bye

ANSHUL Alright, it was really nice meeting you, see you soon.



ENGLISH CONVERSATION

FRIENDS TALKING ABOUT WORK



PEPTALK INDIA

VOCABULARY IN USE

Have a lot on one's plate: to be very busy and have commitments.

Too many irons in the fire: to be engaged in too many activities

Apple Polisher: one who flatters to get advantage, boot-licker

Cope up: deal with something unpleasant

CONVERSATION WITH COLLEAGUE

- AMRITA** How are you doing?
- KARAN** I am great.
- AMRITA** You sound **perplexed**, what happened?
- KARAN** Nothing much, I am actually looking for a job change these days but the prospects look **bleak**.
- AMRITA** Why do you want to change?
- KARAN** The current work place is very far from my home and it's very difficult to manage.
- AMRITA** Which all places have you tried?



- KARAN** I have tried in almost all the placement agencies but nothing's working.
- AMRITA** Relax, things will get settled in some time and you will **get through**. Don't worry.
- KARAN** How can I relax? All my efforts are going **in vain**.
- AMRITA** At least you are making efforts for what you want, I am sure you will get the results at the right time.
- KARAN** I am also hoping that. By the way how is your work going?
- AMRITA** My work has become **topsy-turvy** these days.
- KARAN** What exactly happened?
- AMRITA** Just too much of work at office. I have a **lot on my plate** these days.
- KARAN** OK, things keep you busy all the time. Actually you need to take a break.

AMRITA You might be right but my hands are tied.

KARAN I can understand. You will sail through it like you always do. Take care!

AMRITA Thanks a lot buddy.

VOCABULARY

Perplexed – Confused

Bleak – Discouraging

Get through – to be successful

In vain – without success

Topsy-turvy – disorganized

A lot on my plate – to have a lot of work or problems

ABOUT NEW JOB

Sunil: Hi Yukta, how's it going?

Yukta: Everything is great. What's new with you?

Sunil: I am very well.

Yukta: You look positively *ecstatic* today. Who's she?

Sunil: Nothing like that. Actually recently I have joined new job at DLS Venture Capital.

Yukta: That's great Sunil. You didn't even tell me about it.

Sunil: *All of a sudden*, I had to quit my previous job. Thereafter, while I was searching for job, I came upon this exciting new opportunity. Though it's totally new for me but the pay and perks they are offering are *stupendous*.

Yukta: But why did you leave your accounting job?

Sunil: To be very honest, I didn't see any significant professional growth in that *dead-end* accounting *job*. I always wanted to do something exciting which offers opportunities to travel.

Yukta: Yeah, you mentioned it before. I bet you are *relishing* every bit of it.

Sunil: *So far so good*. I can't really *whine about* not hanging out with my old friends.

Yukta: I guess you can't really *have your cake and eat it too*. Sometimes you have to make a few compromises.

Sunil: Yeah, you are right. I have to *make peace with* the fact that change is inevitable. I have to somehow deal with it. I am really excited about the new travel opportunities that would come with the new job.

Yukta: That's more like it. I guess *that's the way cookie crumbles*.

Sunil: Yeah.

Yukta: By the way, congratulations on your lucky break.

Sunil: Thanks a lot.

Yukta: So, when can I expect a big treat?

Sunil: Whenever you say dear.

Yukta: How about lunch at Le Meridien on Sunday?

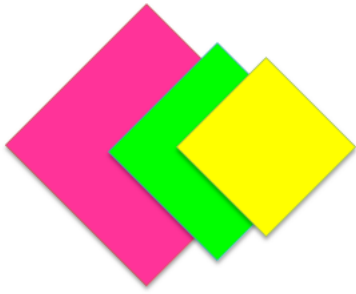
Sunil: That sounds good. It is a bit expensive but alright. I will see you on Sunday then.

Yukta: Alright then. Please don't back away *at the eleventh hour* like you always do.

Sunil: I will keep my end of the bargain. Don't worry about it.

Yukta: That sounds fair. I have to catch an early movie at PVR. See you.

Sunil: Cheerio!



ENGLISH CONVERSATION

FRIENDS TALKING ABOUT NEW JOB



PEPTALK INDIA

Vocabulary/phrases

Ecstatic – extremely happy

Stumbled upon – find something by chance

Whine about – to complain about something

Have your cake and eat it too – to have benefits of two different things

Make peace with – accept something unpleasant

That's the way cookie crumbles - that's the way the situation is, and it must be accepted

At eleventh hour – at the very end

STARTING A BUSINESS VENTURE

Happy Good morning, how are you?

Timsy I am doing well. How about you? Hope everything is **hunky-dory** at your end.

Happy Yeah, everything is going really well. Nowadays I am quite **tied up with** one of my key projects with Japan.

Timsy What is your project all about? What does your company deal in?

Happy My company has been exporting fabrics to China for few years and now we are beginning to export fabrics to Japan as one of my counterpart is now settled there and setting up this export business would prove **lucrative** for our company.

Timsy What are the primary areas you are working upon to get this export business started? From where are you sourcing fabrics in India?

Happy I had recently been to Surat in Gujarat as one of my friend has a humongous Textile mill there and they produce top-notch quality of cotton fabric. We would first start with the export of cotton fabric and then we would move onto silk and nylon.

Timsy I know there is a huge market of Indian textiles across the world. But I guess these big mills are directly approaching the importers abroad, so why are they getting you as the middlemen?

Happy You are right, these big mills are already into export businesses, but this friend of mine doesn't deal in export business and is very busy in dealing with his suppliers in India. On the contrary, he needs someone to help him. He knows that I am already exporting fabrics to China through many suppliers across India. Therefore he would want me to acquire fabric through his company and start the business in Japan and in China as well. Furthermore, my partner is now in Japan and he is already in talking terms with two companies who are interested in seeking fabrics from India. I hope things are going on the right track.

Timsy That sounds really exciting. All the best for your new business venture, I hope that your hard work will eventually **pay off**.

Happy What about your fashion designing work?

- Timsy** It's going good, now I have started doing freelancing. I think you can consider my designs as well for your export business.
- Happy** That's a good idea, but let me first start with the raw fabrics then we can move onto the finished products. Let's talk over about it some day
- Timsy** If you want, can I share my designs with you?
- Happy** Give me a month's time. After I send one export lot to Japan, we can meet and **talk over**. And yes, I will be needing your designs as well to start and will share with my counterparts in China and Japan.
- Timsy** Thanks, I would share them in some time. It was nice talking to you and knowing your business as well.
- Happy** Thanks, I am also pleased to meet you. Look forward to meeting you soon.

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

- Hunky-dory:** fine; going well
- Tie up with:** engage in important activity
- Lucrative:** producing a great deal of profit
- Pay off:** succeed
- Talk Over:** discuss something serious

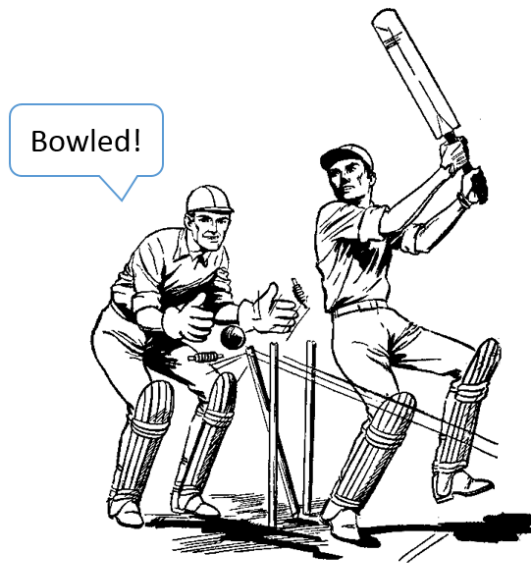
TALKING TO BOSS

- Boss** Hello Rakesh! Please have a seat.
- Employee** Thank you sir.
- Boss** Actually I have called you to discuss about a new project of which you will be handling the responsibility.
- Employee** Sure sir. I will be glad to **shoulder** that responsibility.
- Boss** As I have informed you before that we are planning to open a new branch in Gurugram, so I want you to search the best hotels in Gurugram to hold seminars.
- Employee** Sir, I know a few hotels in Gurugram which provide amazing packages for the seminars.
- Boss** Please tell me.
- Employee** Hyatt, which has a rating of five stars, provides a package of Rs 80000/- for four seminars. They will also provide coffee with snacks.
- Boss** That's nice. But can we get something at a more reasonable rate?
- Employee** Clarks Inn provides a package of 55000/- for 5 seminars. But it has a rating of 3 stars.
- Boss** Will they provide snacks?
- Employee** Yes sir, they will. But not unlimited.
- Boss** No problem. I want you to **scout for** more hotels and book the best available option that meets our requirements.
- Employee** Sure sir. Shall I schedule a meeting with one of them?
- Boss** Yes, please. And **keep me posted**.
- Employee** OK Sir.

VOCABULARY

- Shoulder** accept the responsibility
- Scout for** search an area to find something
- Keep me posted** regularly update with recent information

ABOUT INDIAN CRICKET



That's a good delivery!



Cricket Conversation

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Raj | Hi everyone, how are you? |
| Akhil | I am great, how is everything going? |
| Sunny | Things are going fine at my end. How about you two? |
| Raj | I am snowed under these days with work and family commitments. I have no time for any kind of sports or leisure activities. What about you guys? Are you both into any kind of sport? |
| Akhil | My favorite sport is Cricket. My friends and I normally play every Sunday afternoon at the local sports complex. Trust me, we have a blast . |
| Sunny | Can I also join you guys next Sunday? |
| Akhil | You both can join us any time. |
| Raj | I could join you next week. Hope that's ok? |
| Akhil | Of course, there is no problem in that. It will be really great. |
| Sunny | By the way, are you watching cricket matches involving the Indian team? They have become really interesting these days. |
| Raj | Yes, sure. After Kohli became the captain, the matches have gone up a notch . |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Akhil | I think MS Dhoni was a better captain than Virat Kohli. I feel we shouldn't ignore Dhoni's efforts as a captain, he won the 2007 Twenty20 and also won the World Cup in 2011. |
| Sunny | Even I agree with you. Dhoni's performance has been quite consistent since the very beginning and I am sure he would do his best in the future as well. I think Virat is the youngest captain in the history of cricket so far. He won Man of the Tournament twice at the ICC World Twenty20. Kohli's performance has really been stupendous so far. |
| Raj | What about other players? How are their performances? |
| Sunny | Ravinder Jadeja and Suresh Raina are two other players whose performances have taken a big leap. |
| Akhil | Yeah, they also play fantastic cricket. Let's hope the Indian cricket team keeps up its performance. Oh it's getting late now. I will take your leave as I have to go. Let's meet next Sunday at the complex. |
| Sunny | I would love to be a part of it. I will definitely come. |
| Raj | I will inform you the time soon. It was really nice meeting you. Adios! |

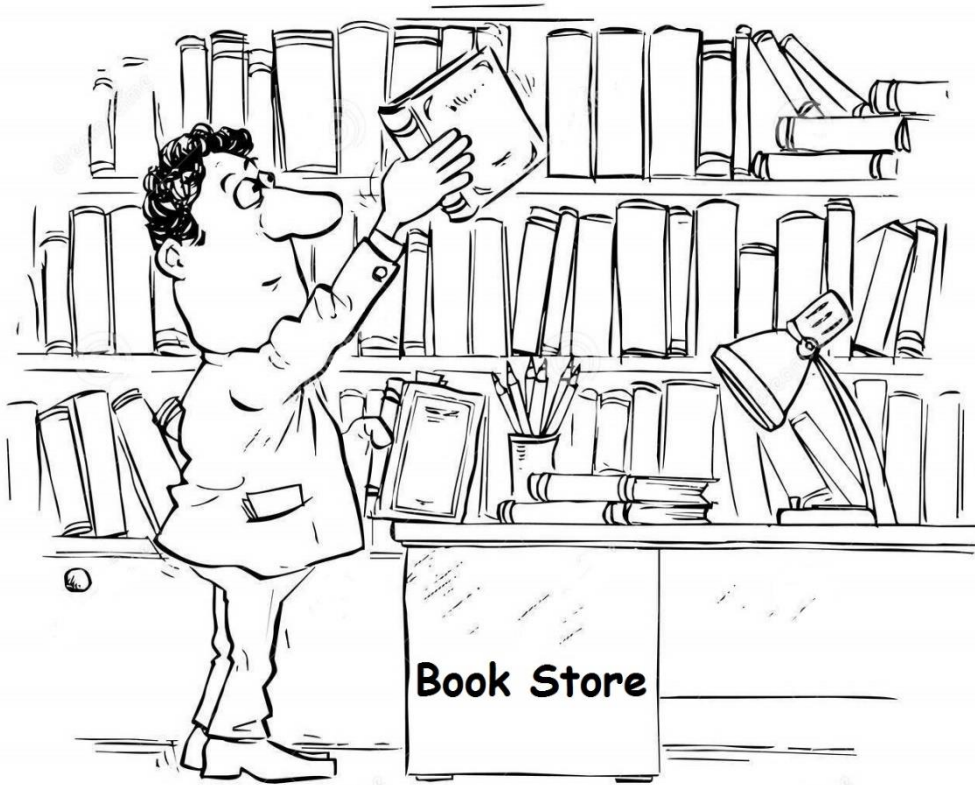
VOCABULARY/PHRASES

Snowed under: Overworked

Stupendous: Astonishing

Gone up a notch: Increase a little

AT A BOOK STORE



- Shopkeeper:** Good morning ma'am, how may I help you?
- Customer:** Good morning. Do you have grammar books?
- Shopkeeper:** Yes ma'am. We have a **myriad of** grammar books in the language section, which one do you want?
- Customer:** I am looking for an advanced grammar book.
- Shopkeeper:** Which author do you prefer?
- Customer:** I don't really know about any author, I just want to **polish up** my English grammar.
- Shopkeeper:** We have many books by Cambridge and Oxford publications that are quite popular. However, we also have a catalogue that you can browse.
- Customer:** Okay, let me have a look.
- Shopkeeper:** Ma'am, I have a suggestion. You can join **Pep Talk India** to improve your spoken English as my son had also enrolled there few months ago and had a really good experience.
- Customer:** Okay, thanks. I would **look it up** on Google.
- Shopkeeper:** Are you looking for any other book or novel?

Customer: I am also looking for 'Delhi' by Khushwant Singh. I have heard that it's a really good book and has got very good reviews.

Shopkeeper: I don't think we have it right now, as the last one got sold yesterday. I have ordered it already and it would be made available next week.

Customer: Okay, I have been searching for this book online; however, I am unable to find it anywhere. I have been really **pushing my luck** to get it, but all efforts are **in vain**.

Shopkeeper: I am sorry ma'am. I will try and get the book for you ASAP. If you want any other book by any other author, you can **browse through** the collection on your right.

Customer: Do you have other books by Khushwant Singh or by any other Indian author?

Shopkeeper: We have only one book by Khushwant Singh which is 'The Sunset Club'. It **makes for interesting reading**.

Customer: Sure, I would love to see it. Do you have any other Indian author's book?

Shopkeeper: Sure, ma'am. We have many books by Indian authors. They are on the right hand side of the shelf.

Customer: Thanks.

(After few minutes)

Shopkeeper: Ma'am, have you **made up your mind**?

Customer: Yes, I want 'The Sunset Club' by Khushwant Singh, 'Sea of Poppies' by Amitav Ghosh, and *Advanced English Grammar* by Raymond Murphy.

Shopkeeper: Sure, ma'am. How would you like to pay?

Customer: I would like to pay by card.

Shopkeeper: Can I have your card?

Customer: Sure, here it is.

Shopkeeper: Thanks.

VOCABULARY

- **Myriad:** large number
- **Polish up:** improve
- **Look up:** To find
- **Push your luck:** take risk to achieve something
- **In vain:** Without success or result
- **Browse through:** look at many things
- **Make for interesting reading:** interesting to read
- **Make up your mind:** decide something

CONVERSATION ABOUT YOGA CLASSES

- Mother** Good morning dear!
- Daughter** Good morning mom!
- Mother** Why don't you get up early in the morning?
- Daughter** Ah! During holidays I want to sleep late.
- Mother** But dear, it will **upset** your routine.
- Daughter** Mom, I am not a kid anymore. Such things won't **disrupt** my routine.
- Mother** I am your mother know what's best for you. You should **pay heed to** my words for your own good.
- Daughter** Oh mother! I know that just relax!! I have **made up my mind**, I will join yoga classes. Tomorrow onwards, I will get up at 5 and attend my classes.
- Mother** **That's more like it!**
- Daughter** Hey I have a brilliant idea, why don't you also join yoga classes with me.
- Mother** Ah no. I don't have time for that. I have to attend public speaking classes at **Pep Talk India**.
- Daughter** Mom it's just for an hour. At least you can spare an hour for yourself. We can go together on the weekends.
- Mother** Okay fine. Let's **give it a shot**.
- Daughter** Perfect mom. Love you!

VOCABULARY

- **Pay heed to:** pay careful attention to
- **Make up my mind:** decide something
- **That's more like it:** more acceptable
- **Give it a shot:** try to achieve something

JOINING A GYM



She won't be able to get body like me...



Max - The Trainer

Gym Conversation

RECEPTIONIST Hello sir, welcome to Fitness Time. How may I help you?

KARAN My dad and I want to join, but before that we would like to take a tour of the gym. Can we see the gym?

RECEPTIONIST Yeah, sure. Let me call someone to give you a tour.
(After taking the tour...)

RECEPTIONIST How did you like the gym sir?

KARAN It is good, spacious and well ventilated. Could you please tell me about the fitness trainers here? Are they all certified?

RECEPTIONIST Yes sir. All our trainers are ACSM (American College of Sports Medicine) Certified. Apart from trainers we also have helpers on the floor for helping our clients in lifting heavy weights and for re-racking weights after use.

KARAN That's very good. Can I talk to any of your trainers? I just need to ask some questions.

RECEPTIONIST With pleasure sir.

FITNESS TRAINER: Hello sir, I am Max. I am a fitness trainer here. How can I help you?

KARAN: Hi. I just wanted to know that what kind of training approach is being followed here. I need to put on some serious weight as you can see I am so skinny and **lanky**.

FITNESS TRAINER: Sir, after you have joined here, you will be informed about the complete workout and dietary **regimen** which you will have to follow religiously in order to see some **discernible** change in your physique. For you, I would suggest at least four days of rigorous weight and strength training followed by just one day of mild-to-moderate cardio and some abs exercises. Throughout this bulking phase, you will have to **eat like a horse** and **sleep like a log**.

KARAN: Shall I be asked to take supplements later? What are the benefits and ramifications of taking these supplements?

FITNESS TRAINER: Yes sir, but it will depend on you completely whether you want to take them or not. Nobody will force you to take anything.

Moreover, we ask only those clients to take protein supplements who are very serious about their physique goals. Protein supplements are essential because the kind of healthy food we eat at home like milk, fruits and green vegetables do not contain all 21-essential-amino-acids. For people who want to put on quality muscle, these protein supplements complete the deficit of protein in their diet. There are no **side-effects** of taking these supplements but it is recommended to **keep a cap on** your daily intake.

KARAN: Okay. I was also a bit concerned about my dad who will be joining along with me. He is in his 60s and an asthmatic patient. What fitness approach would you recommend for him?

FITNESS TRAINER: Sir, we have Senior Fitness Trainers on floor all the time at our center. They are the ones who basically deal with all elderly people as well as people with any kind of past medical history like heart related, asthma or stroke related. You can bring your dad along without a worry. He will be taken care of properly.

KARAN: Okay. Thanks a lot! Could you tell me about the fee structure or packages that you run?

Fitness Trainer: I am afraid sir. I am not equipped with all the details about the fee packages. You can ask this at the reception. You will be thoroughly informed.

KARAN: Sure.

RECEPTIONIST: Welcome back sir. Are you satisfied talking to our trainer?

KARAN: Yes, totally. Could you tell me the fee structure or packages that are available?

RECEPTIONIST: Yes sir. Here is our manual mentioning all the monthly, quarterly and yearly packaging details. Please go through it once.

KARAN (after skimming through manual...): I have checked it. I would like to join right now and go for an annual package.

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

Lanky: Thin and tall.

Regimen: fitness or diet routine

Discernible: noticeable

Side effects: An unintended but inevitable secondary result.

Eat like a horse: Eat large amount of food.

Sleep like a log: To get a sound uninterrupted sleep.

Keep a cap on: put a limit on something

Skim through: To read or examine quickly.

CONVERSATION about Dieting

Sakshi Hi Pooja. You look fantastic. Have you lost weight?

Pooja Hola Sakshi. Yeah. I've been on a diet for a couple of months now.

Sakshi Wow! Seriously, you look great.

Pooja Thanks for the compliment.

Sakshi What type of diet were you on?

Pooja A few months back, I joined a fitness center near my place and got useful tips and inputs from my personal trainer. With a combination of eating healthier and exercising better, I managed to lose 6 kg in 2 months.

Sakshi That's amazing. What tips did your trainer give you?

Pooja Mostly on how to exercise properly, but the best advice I got was to bring a change in my eating habits. Instead of eating 3 times a day, he told me to eat 5 times a day for optimum weight management.

Sakshi **Are you kidding me?** That doesn't make any sense. Apparently if you eat more, than how do you lose weight?

Pooja There is **more to it than meets the eye**. Actually, I'm taking the same amount of calories. I eat five smaller meals a day. That's the magic of dietary protein and fiber. Basically, it naturally speeds up the metabolism and helps to burn fat at a rapid pace.

Sakshi When put it that way, it makes sense. I'm going to try that in the **foreseeable future**.

Pooja You don't need to lose weight. You look totally fit.

Sakshi I have been trying to get into shape. I have joined yoga classes.

Pooja That's a great way to go about it but do remember to change your dietary schedule to improve your energy levels. Just follow through, and you will definitely feel more **revitalized**.

Sakshi Thanks for the recommendation. I will **give it a shot**.

Pooja No problem. You will be transformed, believe me

VOCABULARY

- **Are you kidding (me)** – expression to express disbelief and surprise
- **More to it than meets the eye** – more than there appears to be at first
- **Foreseeable** – able to be predicted
- **Revitalized** – energized
- **Give it a shot** – to attempt to do something

TALKING ABOUT FAVOURITE MOVIE



Joey Hey man, how's it going? You look amazed.

Chuck Hi, yeah, I'm pretty good. How are you?

Joey Nice, I am cool. **Where are you coming from?**

Chuck I have been **out and about** doing some shopping. I was at Eternity Mall and then I went to see a movie on the IMAX screen.

Joey Great.

Chuck Watching movies is one of my favorite pastimes.

Joey Yes, I know. What movie did you get to watch?

Chuck I watched excuse me. I need to take this call. It's urgent.

Joey Sure, **it's absolutely fine**. Go ahead.

Chuck Thanks.

[After few minutes]....

CHUCK I am sorry. Our conversation got interrupted.

JOEY That's okay. So who are you just **getting off phone with?**

CHUCK I was speaking to my mother.

JOEY How's she doing?

CHUCK She's doing okay. Actually she has been **out of sorts** since last week but she is alright now.

JOEY Oh, I hope she recovers soon.

CHUCK Yeah, I wish the same.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| JOEY | You were saying something about the movie you watched. |
| CHUCK | Right, I watched <i>Inception</i> . I have become a big fan of Christopher Nolan. The story, visual effects and direction blew me away . It was incredible. |
| JOEY | Wow! That's awesome. |
| CHUCK | And watching the movie at IMAX theatre made the experience even more immersive . The acoustics and giant screen offer an unforgettable movie watching experience for a cinophile like me. |
| JOEY | Sweet! So what's the movie all about? |
| CHUCK | <i>Inception</i> is a sci-fi movie with an intricate plot where a group of people attempt to hack into mind to get confidential information. I haven't seen anything like it. The visual effects and imagery were simply breath-taking . |
| JOEY | Holy cow! It sounds heavy. |
| CHUCK | The story was intriguing and the entire time I was on the edge of my seat . |
| JOEY | Yay! I will definitely watch it. |
| CHUCK | It's a must-watch movie. If you want I can re-watch it. It is one of my favorite movies. |
| JOEY | We can go there tomorrow. I would certainly want to get a taste of IMAX. |
| CHUCK | Yeah, sure. I will book the tickets online. |
| JOEY | That would be swell . |
| CHUCK | By the way , what is your favourite movie? |
| JOEY | I really like <i>The Matrix</i> , it's among my favorite movies ever. The casting, characters, direction, storyline, action pieces and never seen before graphics make me watch it again and again. |
| CHUCK | Great! You too have a good taste in movies. It's a bummer that film industry is just churning out subpar movies and quality movies like <i>The Matrix</i> are seldom made these days. |
| JOEY | I totally agree. |
| CHUCK | Man, my cab has just arrived. I have to leave. Catch you later. |
| JOEY | No problem. See you tomorrow. Cheerio. |

Vocabulary & phrases

Out and about – doing the things you usually do

Out of sorts – not feeling well

Blow someone away – impress someone greatly

Intricate – very complicated

Intriguing – interesting, fascinating

Get a taste of something – experience something

CONVERSATION with MOVIE STAR

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Reporter | Hello Sir! |
| STAR | Hello! How are you? |
| Reporter | I am good, sir. What about you? |
| STAR | Ahh, I am great. |
| Reporter | So when are we going to see you on the big screen next. |
| STAR | Soon. I have signed a movie. |
| Reporter | When is the releasing date of that movie? |
| STAR | It will get released in December. |
| Reporter | Your fans have been eagerly waiting for your movie for quite some time long. |
| STAR | I really want to thank all my fans for their support. |
| Reporter | We will definitely pass on your message to your fans. Could you please tell me something about your upcoming movie? |
| STAR | It's an action plus romantic movie. I am the main protagonist who portrays a role of an honest police officer who eventually gets trapped by some venal politicians. |
| Reporter | Wow that's interesting. |
| STAR | Hahaha. Let's see how everything pans out . This is all new for me. |
| Reporter | And who is the lead actress of this movie? We would also like to know about her. |
| STAR | Kanika is the lead actress. She is playing a role of a politician's daughter. That's enough of the information about the movie, I guess. Let's keep something for the trailer as well. |
| Reporter | Yes, I totally agree. We all are really excited to see the trailers of your upcoming movie. |

VOCABULARY

Protagonist: - main character or hero

Venal: - corrupt and dishonest

Pan out: - to develop in a particular way

AT THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE

- MR. KAPOOR:** Good morning, Dr. Sharma!
- DR. SHARMA:** Good morning! What's wrong with you?
- MR. KAPOOR:** I have been suffering from fever since yesterday.
- DR. SHARMA:** Do you have any other symptoms?
- MR. KAPOOR:** I also feel headache and shivering.
- DR. SHARMA:** Let me take your temperature. At this time the fever is 102 degree. Don't worry, there is nothing serious. I am giving you some medicine. You will be all right in a couple of days.
- MR. KAPOOR:** Thank you, doctor.
- DR. SHARMA:** But get your blood tested for malaria, and come with the report tomorrow.
- MR. KAPOOR:** OK doctor.
- DR. SHARMA:** I shall recommend at least two days rest for you.
- MR. KAPOOR:** Would you prepare a medical certificate for me to submit it in my office?
- DR. SHARMA:** Oh sure... This is your medical certificate.
- MR. KAPOOR:** Thank you very much. Please tell me how shall I take this medicine?
- DR. SHARMA:** This medicine is for one day only. Take this dose as soon as you reach your home and the second at 3 pm and the third at night before sleeping.
- MR. KAPOOR:** What should I eat doctor?
- DR. SHARMA:** You should eat only light food. You can take milk and fresh fruit also.
- MR. KAPOOR:** How much shall I pay you doctor?
- DR. SHARMA:** You can pay the consultation fee at the reception desk.
- MR. KAPOOR:** Thanks doctor.
- DR. SHARMA:** It's all right.
- MR. KAPOOR:** Thank you doctor. I shall see you tomorrow with my blood report.

In EMERGENCY ROOM

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Ajay | Hi, can I see Dr. Achal Dave urgently? My friend has been run over by a car at the crossroad outside. He is bleeding profusely and needs immediate medical attention. |
| Receptionist | I am afraid, Dr. Dave is busy in the operation theatre at the moment, but you can take your friend to Accident & Emergency Department. He will be taken care of there. |
| Ajay | Could you tell me the way to Accident & Emergency Department please? |
| Receptionist | Yeah, it is right behind you. Go straight and then take the first right. |
| Ajay | Thanks! |
| Doctor at ED | Oh my god! What happened to him? |
| Ajay | He has been run over by a car. |
| Doctor | Where did it happen? How long before? |
| Ajay | Just a while ago. It happened right at the crossroad outside. |
| Doctor | He is unconscious at the moment and needs resuscitation . His injuries are severe. He also has lost ample blood. I will have to ring to police station as well. |
| Ajay | First do something to save his life. Police can be called in later as well. |
| Doctor | Don't worry gentleman. I am on it. You may sit outside and do not forget to inform his family if you still haven't. We may require one unit of blood urgently. |
| Ajay | Sure, doctor. |

VOCABULARY

Run over: to get hit by a vehicle

Profusely: in large amount

Resuscitation: the action or process of reviving someone from unconscious state

AT THE HOSPITAL

| | |
|----------------|---|
| NURSE | Good morning sir, how are you feeling now? |
| Patient | Good morning, I am feeling better than before. |
| NURSE | That's really great. You look hale and hearty . |
| Patient | I just want to know that have you changed my medicine because you gave me only two medicines in the morning. |
| NURSE | Yes, seeing the steady improvement in your health, we have reduced your dosage. And that medicine will be given to you only at night. |
| Patient | I am a touch relieved after hearing this. |
| NURSE | You have a blood test right now. |
| Patient | Blood test for what? |
| NURSE | To check the level of your haemoglobin. |
| Patient | OK. And will that be done on empty stomach? |
| NURSE | Yes, it will be done on empty stomach. |
| Patient | What will I get in breakfast after the test? |
| NURSE | Today you will get oats along with a cup of milk. |
| Patient | That's so bland and boring. Can't you jazz it up a little? |
| NURSE | Hilarious! Don't worry you will get a healthy and sumptuous lunch today. |
| Patient | That's perfect. |

VOCABULARY

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Hale and hearty | strong and healthy |
| Bland | tasteless, uninteresting |
| Jazz it up | make something more interesting |
| Sumptuous | good, splendid |

TALKING TO A STRANGER



ENGLISH CONVERSATION

TALKING TO A STRANGER



PEPTALK INDIA

(Conversation inside a METRO)

Boy Excuse me!

[Girl with headphones on]

Girl Sorry, are you talking to me?

Boy Yeah, just need to ask you one thing real quick.

Girl **Fire away.**

Boy Which headphones are you using? They look very funky.

Girl These are Skullcandy's. The model name is 'Crusher'.

Boy If you don't mind, may I get a sound check?

Girl *(hesitantly)* Okay...there you go.

(After checking the sound quality)

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Boy | Wow, it is amazing. I was not expecting this. I have never been an admirer of Skullcandy. |
| Girl | Yeah. |
| Boy | How much did it cost? |
| Girl | 6500/-. |
| Boy | Amazing product at such a low price. Sound quality is extremely good. I mean, I could literally single out the sound of every musical instrument being played, the drum thumping, the bass throbbing the heavy guitar riffs , everything. |
| Girl | Yes, Skullcandy is coming up with some really good products nowadays. You can try out other models as well like 'Hesh2' and 'Uprock'. These models are more than capable of giving anyone a feel of eargasm . |
| Boy | Oh really? But now you have germinated a confusion in my head. |
| Girl | What confusion? |
| Boy | That which model is the best? |
| Girl | Well you have tried one yourself. For others, you can go and check the reviews on the internet. |
| Boy | Yeah I sure will. By the way sorry I forgot to introduce me, I am Harsh. I am a B. Com. final year student at Hansraj College. |
| Girl | I am Sakshi. I work with Genpact. Oops! My station has also come, time to get off. It was nice meeting you by the way. See you around. |
| Boy | Yeah Sure. |
| Girl | Bye. |
| Boy | Cheerio. |

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Fire away | tell somebody to ask question |
| Riffs | repeated pattern of notes in music |
| Eargasm | sensation derived from listening to music |
| Germinate | begin to grow |

SAYING “NO” POLITELY

JOE Hey Alex, how are you doing?

ALEX Hi Alex, I am doing good. How come you landed so **out of the blue**?

JOE I had some work two blocks away. I was just passing by so thought I should **drop by** and say 'Hi'.

ALEX I am glad you stopped by. Tell me what would you have, tea or coffee?

JOE I guess coffee would be great. Thanks!

ALEX So how is your job going on?

JOE I have left that desk job of mine. It was very monotonous. I have joined Amway now.

ALEX That's great. What's it like?

JOE As an Amway agent, my work is to promote their products by selling them out and also to encourage people to join Amway in order to craft a better and broader demand-and-supply network. As an agent you not only get rebate on the selling price of the product but also if any of your chain members down your leg sells out any product, you get a certain commission on that.

ALEX Sounds cool.

JOE In fact I believe you are yourself an avid user of Amway health products. I have seen you **chugging out** on Amway protein shake a couple of times in the gym. You too can **jump on the bandwagon** if you want. By doing that not only you will start getting cheaper products, you can also make it your source of earning by making a chain of members down your leg.

ALEX And what about my current source of earning? Who will do that job?

JOE That is not an issue. You can start on part time basis or at weekends. All you have to do is just attend an Amway seminar once in a fortnight where you can also learn the persuading skills to encourage people to join Amway as an agent and once you are confident enough you can also hold your own seminar, invite people who are well known to you and then try to convince them to become the member of Amway. Look the company tag itself **speaks volumes** about the quality of its products, so half of the battle is already won. You only have to just try to reach out to more and more people in your spare time just to get the brand name publicized.

ALEX Look Joe, I agree that the job is not bad and moreover if the product is genuine, there is no harm in endorsing it but trust me, I have no interest and wish to join as an agent. I already have many things at this juncture of my life to grapple with and I really cannot commit myself to any new affair. I hope I am not being rude to you but I am going to have a pass on it.

JOE No issues at all. May be right now you are occupied at all fronts, but later on at any point if you feel like jumping in, I am just a call away.

ALEX Yeah sure, **that goes without saying.**

JOE Okay then I will take your leave now. See you around. Bye.

ALEX Bye. Take care.

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

- **Out of the blue:** To be completely unexpected.
- **Drop by:** Visit for short duration.
- **Jump on the bandwagon:** To join in/support something that is popular or trendy.
- **Chug out:** To drink hastily (in large gulps).
- **Grapple with:** To deal with (any problem/situation)
- **It goes without saying:** Generally understood and accepted.
- **Speak volumes:** convey a great deal without using words.

CONVINCING PARENTS TO PURSUE A DREAM

| | |
|--------|--|
| SON | Dad, I need to talk to you regarding something. |
| FATHER | Yeah Deepak, what about? |
| SON | It is about my career. |
| FATHER | Well, I am all ears . |
| SON | I don't want to join the army. I want to make my career in modeling and acting. I want to be a model and an actor. |
| FATHER | What are you talking about? Have your wits gone wool-gathering? Do not disgrace your forefather's name and try to be the black sheep of the family . Do you want to make me a laughing stock for the society? |
| SON | No dad, you are not understanding me. I am not cut out to be a soldier. All my natural predispositions are towards being an entertainer. Ever since I have started processing the world around me, I have always wanted to be an actor only. This is not a decision taken on the spur of the moment . You can even ask my teachers. They also firmly believe that I can entertain people. Entertaining comes organic to me. I love being the center of the ecosystem. |
| FATHER | Quit being a naïve. You are not a kid anymore. The modeling and acting world is a big maze of coordinators and casting agents, full of greed and carnal desires. Once you get off on the wrong foot , the image loss and the mental damage are irreparable. Moreover, Bollywood industry is still running as a mom-and-pop-shop. It is a family run business. It is very hard to break in for an outsider. |
| SON | Dad, every goal in the world has a goalkeeper but still people hits goals. I do not want to enter this field like a premature struggler. I want to study acting first. I want to go as deeper and learn every minute detail and technique. To begin with, I have already gathered all the information about the courses and the institutions. |

Father: And what about society what will they think?

Son: What society thinks does not matter to me; what you do, does. We live in a free world. Why it is so **incumbent upon us** to be answerable to society for anything or everything we do **under the sun**?

Dad: Why don't you want to join army? Don't you love your motherland?

Son: I love my motherland as much as you do. Joining the army does not give anyone a stamp of patriotism and doing anything else other than that does not make anyone a traitor. You can serve the country well by even being a sweeper if your heart is in the right place.

Dad: Seems like someone has truly grown up real quick. I am proud of you my son and I respect your decision too. I was only trying to test your determination under pressure and now I am sure that you will certainly excel in what you want to do. Go live your life the way you want to. My blessings are with you.

Son (exulting in joy): That was not a bad performance dad. Seems I am not the only actor in the family. Thanks a lot. Love and respect.

VOCABULARY/PHRASES

- **Be all ears:** Very eager to hear.
- **Have your wits gone wool-gathering:** Is your brain not working?
- **Black sheep of the family:** An odd or disreputable member of the family.
- **Laughing stock:** A person subjected to mockery.
- **Cut-out for:** Suited or fitted for something.
- **Predisposition:** Tendency, proneness.
- **On the spur of the moment:** On impulse; without planning in advance.
- **Carnal:** Relating to physical, especially sexual needs and activities.
- **Get off on the wrong foot:** Being something in a way which is likely to fail.
- **Mom-and-pop-shop:** To refer to a family-owned business.
- **Incumbent upon:** Something imposed as an obligation or a duty.
- **Under the sun:** On earth; in existence (used in expressions emphasizing large number of something).

TALKING ABOUT **SCHOOL LIFE**

| | |
|---------------|---|
| DIVYA | Hey, how're you? |
| RASHMI | Hola, I am fantastic. So what's new with you? |
| DIVYA | Not much, same old same old. |
| RASHMI | I was on the phone with my mother earlier today. I had a really long conversation with her. |
| DIVYA | Oh nice, how's she doing these day? |
| RASHMI | Yeah, she's doing good. She sent her regards, by the way. |
| DIVYA | Well, thanks. |
| RASHMI | Yeah, while I was talking to her it came out of the blue. But she was telling me how I was a stubborn child back then. |
| DIVYA | Really? You were like that? |
| RASHMI | What can I say? It's hard to imagine anything like that. But it's true. I really had a hard time moving to different cities due to my father's nature of work. |
| DIVYA | Oh wow, that can actually be pretty traumatic for a kid to keep changing places and schools. |
| RASHMI | Yes, it was a total nightmare. Adjusting to a completely new school... new kids, new teachers, everything being new. |
| DIVYA | Oh, That sounds very unsettling. |
| RASHMI | It was quite overwhelming. As my mother tells me, I kept whining about it during the first few weeks, being at new school. And my stubbornness made it worse. |
| DIVYA | Well, at least I didn't have to move like you did. I mean, that can be really difficult from an academic standpoint when you have to do it in mid-year. |
| RASHMI | That's true. Only thing that kept me going was my interest in extra-curricular activities especially sports, dancing and singing. That made the transition easier. |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| DIVYA | That's marvelous. And you know what, you still enjoy dancing and singing a lot. |
| RASHMI | Right. I believe your hobbies and interests give your life real meaning. It helps you to break free from the monotony of life. |
| DIVYA | Well said. You have an amazing outlook towards life. |
| RASHMI | Well I am trying to keep it real and simple. |
| DIVYA | Yeah, that's just awesome. |
| RASHMI | Talking about my childhood experience, I was a spoilt brat and used to throw tantrums to get what I wanted. I've had some friends in schools and I am still in touch with them. |
| DIVYA | Really! Your personality has undergone a dramatic change. You know, you're more like an agreeable and amiable person now. |
| RASHMI | Yeah, everybody keeps talking about this transformation, I bet it's for the best. |
| DIVYA | There is no doubt about it. |
| RASHMI | Hey listen, I gotta go now. I've to reach home early today. |
| DIVYA | Sure, great talking to you. See you soon. |
| RASHMI | Likewise. Cheerio! |

VOCABULARY & PHRASES

Out of the blue – completely unexpected

Traumatic – deeply disturbing or distressing

Nightmare – a very unpleasant or frightening experience

Overwhelming – powerful and unbearable

Break free – move away or get out of unpleasant situation

ASKING OR GIVING OPINION

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Sanket | Hey Rajiv! How are you doing? I need a little favor. |
| Rajiv | Yeah, what it is? |
| Sanket | Actually I was planning to watch this movie ' <i>V for Vendetta</i> ' this weekend. An office friend spoke very highly of it. I thought I should take an opinion before watching, because I really do not want to waste my time watching a hate-revenge action-packed drama with senseless butchering of people. Even if it is an action movie, there should be a story to connect. So tell me, have you watched this movie? |
| Rajiv | Yeah, it is a wonderful movie, directed by James McTeigue. He has also worked on <i>Stars Wars</i> and <i>The Matrix Trilogy</i> . Hugo Weaving has played the protagonist exceptionally well. Once you have watched the movie, you cannot even think of any other actor filling the role. It has got a very gripping story line as well. You must watch it. It is worth every dime. |
| Sanket | I knew it beforehand that a true-blue cinephile like you only could give me such an in-depth review. I will certainly watch it now. Thanks a lot. |

Vocabulary & Phrases

Protagonist: Main character of any drama or novel.

True-blue: Real; genuine.

Cinephile: A person who is fond of the cinema.

DISCUSSING DAYS, TIME AND WEATHER

| | |
|--------------|--|
| JERRY | Hello, is this Joe? |
| JOE | Yeah, Joe here. |
| JERRY | Hey Joe, Jerry this side from Australia. |
| JOE | Yeah Jerry, long time. How are you? |
| JERRY | I am hale and hearty . I have got a good news to tell. My wedding has been fixed and it is in next week only, so I was just wondering if you could come. |
| JOE | Congratulation man! I would love to. What day is your wedding on? |
| JERRY | It's on March 23 rd . |
| JOE | Great. What day of the week is that? |
| JERRY | It's Wednesday. The marriage ceremony will commence at half past 2 in the afternoon. All the guests are expected to be arrived by 2 at max. |
| JOE | I will be there by 2 for sure. By the way, how is the weather there? My wife has not been keeping well lately . |
| JERRY | Do not worry about the weather. It is always pleasing here. The summers are not hot and humid, rains are not very stormy and even the winters are very pleasant as compared to other parts of the world. |
| JOE | Good to hear that. I am looking forward to seeing you there. |
| JERRY | Sure. Let's catch up on the big day. Bye. |
| JOE | Bye. Take care. |

VOCABULARY IN USE

Hale and hearty: Well and healthy.

Commence: To begin.

Lately: Recently.

Catch up: To meet.

CONVERSATION ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

| | |
|-------|--|
| MEGHA | Hi there! So what's up? |
| KAJAL | O hi Megha! You know, it's Friday night, I just here came to meet someone. |
| MEGHA | That's interesting. Is it the same guy from work who asked you out ? It seemed like you guys just hit it off . |
| KAJAL | Yeah, a few weeks back we were having a conversation and we exchanged phone numbers. One thing led to another and he eventually asked me out . We are getting to know each other. He seems like a decent guy with a goofy sense of humor. Let's see how it goes. |
| MEGHA | Nice. I know it's too early to say but I bet there was a spark between you guys. |
| KAJAL | I am not sure about it. We have good chemistry but I don't want to lead him on . |
| MEGHA | Exactly same thing happened with me. My last relationship didn't have good start. I started to fall for him after we went out few times. We were together for 2 years. |
| KAJAL | So, what happened? I mean if you don't mind me asking why did you guys split up ? |
| MEGHA | That's absolutely fine. After more than a year, we started to drift apart . Mainly because there was little common. We had different interests, different career plans etc. it didn't really work out well. Eventually we had a falling out and I broke up with him few months back. |
| KAJAL | I am sorry to hear that. |
| MEGHA | Please don't be. I am over him now. I can't be in a toxic relationship for that long. |
| KAJAL | Yeah, you're right. My last relationship was crappy one too. I hooked up with a guy at Sandeep's birthday party and it lingered on for like six months before I eventually dumped him . We were constantly fighting over trivial issues and making up . |
| MEGHA | How did it end? |
| KAJAL | He was cheating on me. He tried to convince me that nothing was going on but I somehow knew he was lying through his teeth . |
| MEGHA | Right decision. Good for you. |
| KAJAL | Well, thanks. Nothing puts me off more than unfaithfulness in a relationship. |
| MEGHA | Yeah. It bums me out too. |

KAJAL Yeah. I am actually thinking of **settling down**. I want stability and security in life.

Megha That's wonderful. But are you sure about it?

KAJAL Yeah, I am seriously considering it.

Megha Well, you will soon find someone.

KAJAL I am **backing myself up** on that.

Megha It's getting late. I will talk to you more about it sometime. I gotta leave now.

KAJAL That's fine. See you around.

Megha Take care!

PHRASAL VERBS IN USE

- **Ask someone out** - invite someone for a date
- **Hit it off** - have a great connection from the start (have a spark)
- **Fall for somebody** - fall in love with somebody
- **Lead him on** - give someone false hope about the relationship
- **Go out with somebody** - go on a date
- **Split up / break up** - separate, end the relationship
- **Drift apart** - gradually go in different directions
- **Hook up with** - start a relationship
- **Make up** - reconcile
- **Settle down** - be in a long-term relationship