

# 10 too and enough

## Reading: International complaints

- 1 A choir is a group of people who sing together. Have you ever sung in a choir? Do you know of any famous choirs?
- 2 Read about some unusual choirs. What do they sing about?

### Singing the blues



'Valituskuroo' is a Finnish expression which means 'complaints choir'. In Finland, people use it to describe a situation where a lot of people are complaining simultaneously. But now it has another meaning as well. Two Finns, Tellervo Kalleinen and Oliver Kochta-Kalleinen, had the idea of creating real complaints choirs – groups of local people who come together and sing about their complaints.

They spoke to arts organizations in different cities and the first place to try it was Birmingham in the UK. A group of people met and wrote the lyrics. Then they put them to music and performed for fun. A video of their song was an immediate hit on Youtube and now many other cities have formed complaints choirs, too.

Sometimes the choirs complain about the particular place where they live. So in Finland they sing about poor sauna etiquette and in Singapore they sing about humid weather that spoils your hairstyle. And some of the complaints are about life in general, like high taxes and lost car keys.

So it just goes to show that complaints aren't always negative things. People can form creative friendships and have a lot of fun when they get together and complain.

- 3 These statements are false. Correct them.
  - 1 The singers in the first complaints choir came from Finland.
  - 2 Not many cities have complaints choirs.
  - 3 Complaints choirs only sing about the city where they live.
- 4 Find words in the article that mean the following.
  - 1 the words of a song
  - 2 a song that's a big success and very popular
  - 3 the rules of polite behaviour
  - 4 hot and wet in an unpleasant way
  - 5 has a bad effect on something so it's no longer attractive



## Listening: Common complaints

- 5 1.42 Listen to part of a radio interview about complaints choirs. How many complaints do they mention?
- 6 Work in pairs. Try to remember all the complaints people mentioned. Then listen again and check.

## Word focus: too and enough

- 7 Look at the expressions with *too* and *enough*. Then answer the questions.

### too, too much and too many

*Too* and *too much/many* mean 'more than we want' or 'more than there should be'.

There's **too much** traffic on I95 in the mornings.

There are **too many** red lights.

My vacations are **too** short.

#### Rules:

Match the beginnings and endings of these sentences and complete the rules.

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 We use <i>too</i> ...      | a before plural nouns.      |
| 2 We use <i>too much</i> ... | b before adjectives.        |
| 3 We use <i>too many</i> ... | c before uncountable nouns. |

### enough

*Enough* means 'as much as we want' or 'as much as we need'.

There **aren't enough** Sundays in the week.

My voice **isn't good enough**.

#### Rules:

Choose the correct words to complete the rules.

- 4 We place *enough* before / after a noun.
- 5 We place *enough* before / after an adjective.



*Too* does not mean *very*.