

Everyday English Polite requests and offers

1 Match a line in A with a line in B.

A	B
1 ____ Is there any chance you could lend me £20?	a No, go ahead. It is very stuffy in here.
2 ____ Do you want me to record that film later?	b Thanks, that'd be great. I did a mega shop!
3 ____ Would you mind moving your car?	c Er, I've only got £15. Would that be enough?
4 ____ Could I borrow a pen for a second?	d Yeah. I used the keyboard shortcut, Ctrl B.
5 ____ Can I give you a hand with those bags?	e Oh, sorry, I didn't realize you couldn't get out.
6 ____ Would you mind if I opened the window?	f No, the meal's nearly ready. Just sit down and relax.
7 ____ Is there anything I can do to help?	g Oh, brilliant! Could you drop me at the station?
8 ____ I could give you a lift into town if you want.	h Oh, yeah, do! We can watch it when I get back.
9 ____ Could you show me how you made that bold?	i Oh, yes please! I've got nothing in the fridge!
10 ____ I'll bring some food round if you like.	j Sure ... I think this one works OK.

5.8 Listen and check.

PRONUNCIATION Intonation and stress

1 5.9 Intonation is important with requests. Listen to the difference:

Can you move your car? Can you move your car?

2 5.10 Make these requests in pairs, and then listen and repeat.

Could you confirm that by email, please?
 Could I possibly use your phone charger?
 Would you mind if I asked you a personal question?

3 5.8 Listen again to the conversations in exercise 1 and practise them with a partner.

Grammar reference 5.6–5.7 p147

2 5.11 Listen to four more conversations. Who is talking to who?

3 5.11 Listen again and complete the request or offer you hear in each one.

- _____ meet at 12.00 instead?
- _____ get a takeaway?
- _____ texting while I'm talking to you?
- _____ a taxi?

Roleplay

Work with a partner. Choose a situation and act it out to the class. You can use the ideas in the boxes to help.

IN A RESTAURANT

Student A you are a vegetarian customer
Student B you are a waiter

table by the window menu
 wine list order suggest water
 still or sparkling

IN A CLOTHES SHOP

Student A you are the sales assistant
Student B you want to buy a jumper

help in the window colours
 size try on suits sale
 30% off card cash

AT HOME

Student A you are having a party
Student B you are a friend offering to help

guest list invitations come over
 help drinks snacks move furniture
 choose music clear up

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