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Transcript Learn English Article 111

Easy Language Improvement All You Need To Do Is Talk

Summary

This is the learn English 111 podcast transcript that accompanies the shorter Thursday audio podcast. Use this transcript to support your English learning.

Sometimes when you're learning a language, what's really useful for you to listen is someone speaking just about their every day life, their every day experiences.



Welcome

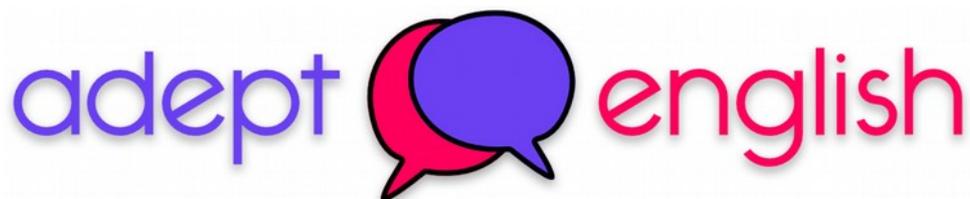
Hi, I'm Hilary. Welcome to this short podcast, which goes out every Thursday. Adept English is here to help you improve your understanding of spoken English. Speak to us on Facebook, message us, give us some feedback.

Sometimes when you're learning a language, what's really useful for you to listen is someone speaking just about their every day life, their every day experiences. It's useful to learn the vocabulary and also get in practice for speaking with other people in normal life situations. So my podcast today is not one that I've done lots of research about. Instead it's one that's just a little bit more personal, a bit more 'every day life'. So I'm just going to talk to you for a few minutes about something that's happening at my house at the moment.

Bathrooms Are So Important

Currently we're having our bathroom renovated. You probably know the word 'bathroom' or 'baathroom' if you come from the southern part of the UK. And the verb 'to renovate' means literally to 'make new'. So if you're talking about renovating a room or a house or a flat, that means taking out all the old things from the room – and making everything new. In the US, they might use to verb 'to remodel' rather than 'to renovate'. So they might talk about 'remodeling' the bathroom or the kitchen. If you look at the transcript there, you might notice that the word 'remodeling' has only one L, whereas if you were spelling that word in UK English or more likely spelling the word 'modelling', it'd have two Ls. Just one of those small differences that don't necessarily make a lot of sense, if you're learning English, but it's good to be aware of.

Anyway, why are we renovating our bathroom? Well back in January, I made an unpleasant discovery in our kitchen. I found that water, was leaking through the top of one of the cupboards and running down the wall. It was also collecting in the cupboard where we store our glasses. What was strange, sometimes it was there, sometimes it wasn't. My first thought was that it happened when there was heavy rain outside, so I began to worry that perhaps there was a problem with the roof. In a house or a flat, if there's water collecting where it shouldn't be, we call that a leak L-E-A-K. And again be careful here – in English there is another type of leek which is a vegetable –



spelt L-E-E-K. The leek, this vegetable is the national symbol for the country of Wales, where England has a rose instead. So if you have a leak in your house, that means that there is water where it shouldn't be, that's an L-E-A-K leak. But if you have leek soup, something to eat, that's a vegetable, that's L-E-E-K.

Learning That The Roof Was Not Leaking Made Things Slightly Better

So, we got someone to come and look at it, to investigate. And they tried to find where the water, where the leak was coming from. Fortunately, it wasn't the roof at all. No, the water was leaking from the upstairs bathroom into the kitchen. So when we got people in to sort out the problem. And when they looked at it, the floor of the bathroom was very wet. And in the end the floor had to be removed. They also had to take out the sink, the wash basin - that's where you would clean your teeth in a bathroom - and the toilet. They brought in a large heater to dry everything out, which was there for a week. Now the room is all dry again. It still has no floor and we're waiting for the new bathroom to be put in. So the new floor boards need to go in and the tiles will need to be taken off the walls and the floor. (Usually square things in a bathroom that are on the floor and wall are 'tiles' or 'ceramic tiles') - and these need to be replaced with new ones. And then we need a new wash basin, a new toilet, a new shower. They are also going to repair the ceiling downstairs and the cupboard where the leak first showed itself. So it's a lot of work - and probably several weeks before it is finished. And we always say 'It'll be nice when it's done' but meanwhile we have a big hole in the bathroom floor. Everyone is having to share another tiny bathroom and I keep finding children's toothbrushes in funny places.

I anticipate it being a bit stressful over the next few weeks - especially as I work from home and I need peace and quiet to work. But, I'm not complaining. At the end of it all, we'll have a nice new bathroom, and one that doesn't leak, so I'll be quite pleased with that.

Goodbye

Anyway, enough for now. Have a lovely day. Speak to you again soon. Goodbye.



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