

Introduction

This support pack accompanies the audio soap opera 'Big City Small World'. To listen to this episode, go to:

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/big-city-small-world/series-1-episode-7-cheer>

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| <p>This support pack contains the following materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a pre-listening vocabulary activity; • the transcript of the episode; • a comprehension activity; • three language activities | <p>Cheer up!</p> |
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Before you listen

Activity 01

Match the words at the top to their definitions.

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| a. architect | b. avoid | c. break | d. degree |
| e. desperate | f. drop by | g. glum | h. gossip |
| i. handmade | j. homeless | k. pop in | l. relieved |
| m. spare | n. stuck | o. thief | p. trained |

1. a person who designs buildings
2. a person who steals
3. a person who talks about the affairs of others
4. a short period of rest
5. an academic title given by a university
6. feeling free from anxiety
7. fixed in a particular position or place
8. go to a particular place (informal)
9. having been prepared for a particular job
10. having nowhere to live
11. kept in reserve for possible use
12. made by hand rather than machine
13. needing or wanting something very much
14. stay away from someone or something
15. unhappy
16. visit someone

Transcript

Fadi: Morning Olivia!

Olivia: Hello there!

Fadi: Do you live here?

Olivia: How do you mean?

Fadi: It's just that every time I come in here, you're here...it's like you live here or something...

Olivia: Just taking a break that's all...

Fadi: You're always taking a break.

Olivia: Well my shop's next door, so it's so easy just to pop in here when things are quiet...

Fadi: Where's the little thief today?

Olivia: Who? Oh! You mean my little nephew Joe...

Fadi: Exactly...the sweet little pest!

Olivia: He's with his mum, my sister, today, you'll be relieved to know.

Fadi: Has Harry been in today?

Olivia: He dropped by the shop before. Said he might pop in here later for a coffee.

Fadi: I think he's angry with me, perhaps I should avoid him for a bit.

Olivia: Why's he angry with you?

Fadi: Oh, you know, we argued about money – he was going to do that job for me...

Olivia: Oh yeah, but don't worry. I'm sure he's not really angry. And even if he is, he'll soon forget it. You know what he's like!

Fadi: Yeah, I guess so. I'll just let it drop.

Fadi and Olivia: Hi there!

Sarah and Magda: Hello

Fadi: Cheer up! What's up with you two?

Sarah: Just the usual...

Olivia: How's the flat-hunting going Sarah?

Sarah: Still nothing. I really need somewhere to live. I'm getting desperate. I'll end up homeless if things don't get better!

Olivia: Oh come on, it's not that bad...

Sarah: No, of course it's not, but...it's so difficult to find a place...

Fadi: I'm glad you showed up – I wanted to talk to you about that...

Sarah: Oh yeah?

Fadi: Yeah - I've heard of something that might interest you...

Sarah: Great! What is it?

Fadi: A cousin of mine has a spare room in his house.

Olivia: A cousin of yours...how many people are there in your family...?

Fadi: A lot!

Sarah: That sounds good...can I look at the flat?

Fadi: I'll call him now.

Olivia: Are you sure about moving in there?

Sarah: Look, I really need a place, urgently, and it'll be ok, I'm sure...

Olivia: Lots of opportunities to see Fadi...

Sarah: You are such a terrible gossip!

Johnny: There's Fadi, always stuck to that

phone, always working...or perhaps it's girls!
Olivia: Actually, he's helping Sarah to find a flat.

Johnny: Oh. Ok. Good. Well hello! What's up? Why does everyone look so glum here?

Sarah: I'm still trying to find a flat...

Magda: And I finish my degree soon, which means I have to get a job, or go back to Poland.

Johnny: And you want to stay here in London?

Magda: Yeah, but it's so difficult to get a job.

Olivia: That's not true, there are lots of jobs around...

Magda: Yes, but I don't want to just work in a bar or a café or a shop...

Olivia: Oh thanks!

Magda: Sorry! I know you work in a shop, but...that's different...it's your own shop, and you sell such special things, those lovely handmade shoes! But usually, you know, shopwork isn't great..

Olivia: Tell me about it...

Sarah: But you'll be a trained architect, won't you?

Magda: Yes, exactly...but it's not easy to get work as an architect. There's a lot of competition here in London

Johnny: You should go to China...lots of opportunities there right now, lots of building.

Fadi: Listen, Sarah, I spoke to my cousin and we can go round to have a look at the flat this afternoon if you like...

Sarah: "We"?

Fadi: Well, I'll go with you, show you where it is...

Sarah: Erm, ok...Thanks!

Olivia: Told you so!

Magda: Well you might have solved your problem then...but I might not be here much longer!

After listening

Activity 02

Put the events from the story below in the correct order.

1. Sarah says she is worried about not finding a flat
2. Olivia makes a joke about plumbers
3. Fadi offers to accompany Sarah to his cousin's flat
4. Fadi arrives at the café
5. Fadi phones his cousin
6. Johnny asks Magda if she wants to stay in London

Activity 03

Type one of the words from the box into the gaps to complete the sentences.. One of the words is used two times.

| | | | | |
|----|------|----|----|----|
| by | drop | in | so | up |
|----|------|----|----|----|

1. Tom just popped to the café.
2. I dropped to see what was happening!
3. I guess!
4. Please, let it! I don't want to talk about it.
5. What's? You look sad.
6. Cheer; it'll be alright.

Activity 04

Match a word in the table to a word below to make collocations.

| | | | |
|------------|--------------|---------|----------|
| a. a break | b. architect | c. door | d. here |
| e. hunting | f. machine | g. pest | h. shoes |

1. flat
2. handmade
3. little
4. next
5. stay
6. take
7. trained
8. washing

Activity 05

Choose the correct form to complete each sentence.

1. I should **to avoid** / **avoid** him for a bit.
2. He was going **do** / **to do** that job for me.
3. He's helping Sarah **to find** / **finding** a flat.
4. I **have to** / **must to** get a job.
5. It's not easy **get** / **to get** work as an architect.
6. I'd rather **to be** / **be** an architect.

Activity 06

Complete the sentences with **so** or **such**.

1. It's easy just to pop in
2. You sell special things
3. Why does everyone look glum?
4. You are a terrible gossip!
5. We use before an adjective.
6. We use before an adjective + noun (or just a noun)
7. She is happy when she is playing tennis
8. The book was a success, they decided to make it into a film
9. They are noisy children.
10. Stop being noisy!

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Answers**Activity 01**

1. a; 2. o; 3. h; 4. c; 5. d; 6. l; 7. n; 8. k; 9. p; 10. j; 11. m; 12. i; 13. e; 14. b; 15. g; 16. f

Activity 02

4, 1, 5, 6, 2, 3

Activity 03

1. in; 2. by; 3. so; 4. drop; 5. up; 6. up

Activity 04

1. e; 2. h; 3. g; 4. c; 5. d; 6. a; 7. b; 8. f

Activity 05

1. avoid; 2. to do; 3. to find; 4. have to; 5. to get; 6. be

Activity 06

1. so; 2. such; 3. so; 4. such; 5. so; 6. such; 7. so; 8. such; 9. such; 10. so