

LESSON 2 TALK ABOUT REASONS FOR BEING LATE



ALBA PARDO

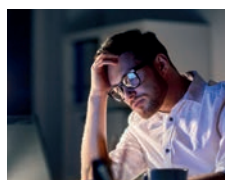
@AlbaP

The trouble with being on time is that no one is there to appreciate it. 😊



1 VOCABULARY Reasons for being late

A ▶ 09-07 Listen. Then listen and repeat.



I had to work late.



I got stuck in traffic.



My car broke down.



My train was delayed.



I lost my keys.



I got lost.



I got stuck in bad weather.



I had an accident.



I overslept.



I missed the bus.

B ▶ 09-08 Listen to the sentences. Write the correct reason for being late from 1A.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

C PAIRS Brainstorm. Think of three more reasons for being late.



2 GRAMMAR Indirect questions

Use indirect questions to be polite or if you're not sure the person will know the answer to the question.

Direct <i>wh-</i> questions				Indirect questions			
Wh-word	Auxiliary verb	Subject	Main verb		Wh-word	Subject	Verb
Where	is	he?		I wonder	where	he	is.
Why	isn't	she	answering?	I don't know	why	she	isn't answering.
When	did	you	plan to leave?	Can you tell me	when	you	planned to leave?

In yes / no questions, use *if* or *whether* before the subject.

Direct <i>yes / no</i> questions			Indirect questions			
Auxiliary verb	Subject	Main verb		If / Whether	Subject	Verb
Is	he	here yet?	Do you know	if	he	is here yet?
Were	they	late?	Can you tell me	whether	they	were late?

Notes

- Indirect questions often appear after introductory phrases, such as *I wonder*, *I don't know*, *Can / Could you tell me*, *Do you know*, *I'd like to know*, or *Would you mind explaining*.
- We always use statement word order in indirect questions. The subject always comes before the verb.

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3 PRONUNCIATION

- A** ▶09-10 Listen. Notice the different vowel sounds spelled by the letter *a*. Then listen and repeat.

/eɪ/	/æ/	/ɑ/	/ə/
late	cab	car	address

The letter *a*

In stressed syllables and words with one syllable, the letter *a* usually has the sound /eɪ/ (*late*) or /æ/ (*cab*). When the letter *a* comes before *r*, however, it usually has the sound /ɑ/ (*car*). In unstressed syllables, the letter *a* often has the sound /ə/ (*address*).

- B** ▶09-11 Write each word in the correct column in 3A. Then listen and check your answers.

sofa traffic train bad armchair
table accident apartment artwork delayed

- C** PAIRS Add one more word to each column in 3A.

4 CONVERSATION



- A** ▶09-12 Listen or watch. Circle the correct answers.

- Mario **missed the bus** / **overslept** / **lost his keys**.
- The cab driver **got stuck in traffic** / **went to the wrong address** / **got stuck in bad weather**.
- Mario couldn't call for help because he **lost his phone** / **forgot his phone** / **forgot Alba's number**.



- B** ▶09-13 Listen or watch. Complete the conversation.



Teo: You look worried. Is everything OK?
Alba: I'm just worried about Mario. I wonder _____.
Teo: I'm sure he's OK. Maybe **he overslept**.
Alba: I don't think so. Maybe he **got lost**, or maybe he is **stuck in traffic**.
Teo: Could be. Does he know _____?
Alba: Yes, he knows where it is. I'm going to call him.



CONVERSATION SKILL

Ask if there is a problem

If you want to ask someone if he or she is having a problem, say: *Is everything OK?*, *Are you all right?*, *Is there a problem?*, *Is something the matter?*, or *What's wrong?* **A:** What's wrong?

B: My friend is really late! Listen to or watch the conversation in 4A again. Underline the questions that you hear above.

- C** ▶09-14 Listen and repeat. Then practice with a partner.

- D** PAIRS Make new conversations. Use these words or your own ideas.

his car broke down

lost his keys

stuck in bad weather

5 TRY IT YOURSELF

- A** MAKE IT PERSONAL Think about a time you were late. When did it happen? What happened and why? What did you do? Take notes.

- B** PAIRS Tell your partner about the time you were late. Ask questions.

A: I was late for my first day at work.

B: Oh, no. What happened?

A: I lost my keys and I didn't know where they were. So I...

I CAN TALK ABOUT REASONS FOR BEING LATE.

