



## 6

## Sure. No problem!

1 **SNAPSHOT**

## Common complaints of families with teenagers

Parents about teens:	Teens about parents:
<p><b>My kids ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ don't help around the house.</li> <li>☞ don't listen to my advice.</li> <li>☞ have strange friends.</li> <li>☞ dress badly and have ugly hairstyles.</li> <li>☞ watch too much TV.</li> <li>☞ don't study enough.</li> </ul>	<p><b>My parents ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ nag about chores and homework.</li> <li>☞ don't like my friends.</li> <li>☞ criticize my appearance.</li> <li>☞ don't respect my privacy.</li> <li>☞ always tell me what to do.</li> <li>☞ don't listen to my opinions.</li> </ul>

Based on information from America Online's Parent Resource Site

**Talk about these questions.**

Have you ever heard parents or children make these complaints? Which ones?

Have you ever had any complaints like these about family members?

2 **CONVERSATION** Making requests

**A**  Listen and practice.

Mr. Field: Jason ... Jason! Turn down the TV a little, please.

Jason: Oh, but this is my favorite program!

Mr. Field: I know. But it's very loud.

Jason: OK. I'll turn it down.

Mr. Field: That's better. Thanks.

Mrs. Field: Lisa, please pick up your things. They're all over the living room floor.

Lisa: In a minute, Mom. I'm on the phone.

Mrs. Field: OK. But do it as soon as you hang up.


Lisa: Sure. No problem!

Mrs. Field: Goodness! Were we like this when we were kids?

Mr. Field: Definitely!



**CLASS AUDIO ONLY** 

**B**  Listen to the rest of the conversation. What complaints do Jason and Lisa have about their parents?

### 3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

#### Two-part verbs; will for responding to requests

With nouns	With pronouns	Requests and responses
Turn down the TV. Turn the TV down.	Turn it down.	Please turn down the music. OK. I'll turn it down.
Pick up your things. Pick your things up.	Pick them up.	Pick up your clothes, please. Sure. I'll pick them up.

**A** Complete the requests with these words. Then compare with a partner.



the books



the toys



the radio



your coat



the TV



your boots



the yard



the light



the trash



your cigarette

- Pick up the toys, please.
- Turn ..... off, please.
- Clean ..... up, please.
- Please put ..... away.
- Please turn down .....
- Please take off .....
- Hang ..... up, please.
- Please take out .....
- Please put ..... out.
- Turn on ....., please.

**B Pair work** Take turns making the requests above. Respond with pronouns.

- A: Pick up the toys, please.  
B: Sure. I'll pick them up.

### 4 PRONUNCIATION Stress with two-part verbs

**A**  Listen and practice. Both words in a two-part verb receive equal stress.

- Please **tu**rn **do**wn the radio.      **Tu**rn it **do**wn.  
Pick the magazines **u**p, please.      **Pi**ck them **u**p.

**B** Write four more requests using the verbs in Exercise 3. Then practice with a partner. Pay attention to stress.

## 5 WORD POWER Household chores

**A** Find a phrase in the list that is usually paired with each verb. (Some phrases go with more than one verb.) Can you think of one more phrase for each verb?

- |             |          |                  |                |               |
|-------------|----------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| the counter | the cat  | the dry cleaning | the faucet     | the groceries |
| the mess    | the oven | the garbage      | the newspapers | the towels    |

clean off	.....	put out	.....
clean up	.....	take out	.....
hang up	.....	throw out	.....
pick up	.....	turn off	.....
put away	.....	turn on	.....

**B** What requests can you make in each of these places? Write four requests and four unusual excuses. Use two-part verbs.

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| the kitchen  | the living room |
| the bathroom | the bedroom     |

**C Pair work** Take turns making the requests you wrote in part B. Respond by giving an unusual excuse.

- A: Mark, please clean up your mess in the kitchen.  
 B: I can't clean it up right now. I have to take the cat out for a walk.



## 8 LISTENING Excuses, excuses!

CLASS AUDIO ONLY

**A** Listen to parents ask their children to do things. Match each conversation with the picture it describes. Number the pictures from 1 to 5.



CLASS AUDIO ONLY

**B** Listen again. What excuse does each person give?

## 7 CONVERSATION

**A**  Listen and practice.

**George:** Hi. I'm your new neighbor, George Rivera. I live next door.

**Stephanie:** Oh, hi. I'm Stephanie Lee.

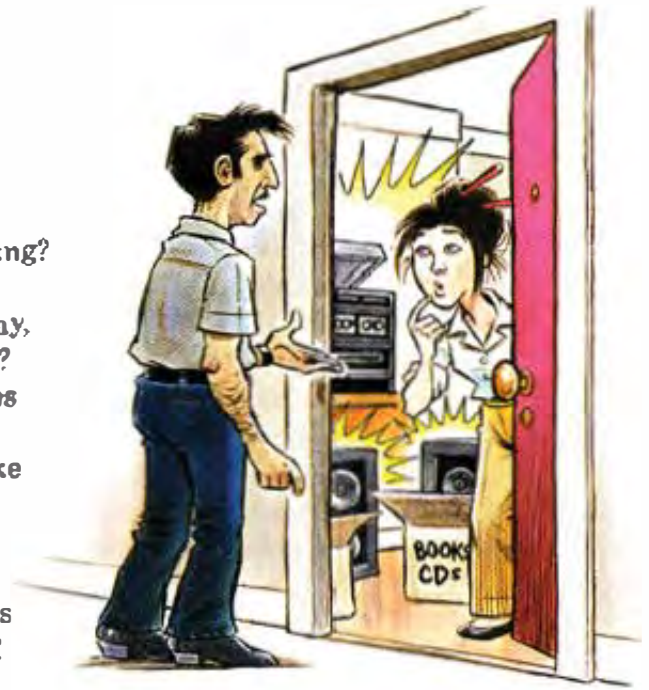
**George:** So, you just moved in? Do you need anything?

**Stephanie:** Not right now. But thanks.

**George:** Well, let me know if you do. Um, by the way, would you mind turning your stereo down? The walls are really thin, so the sound goes right through to my apartment.

**Stephanie:** Oh, I'm sorry! I didn't realize that. I'll make sure to keep the volume down. Oh, by the way, is there a good Italian restaurant in the neighborhood?

**George:** Yeah. There's a great one a couple of blocks from here. Try their lasagna. It's delicious!



**B Pair work** Has a situation like the one in part A ever happened to you? What did you do?

## 8 APOLOGIES

People apologize in different ways.

For example, if someone complains about the noise from your stereo, you can:

- apologize and ... give an excuse "I'm sorry. I didn't realize."
- admit a mistake "I forgot I left it on."
- make an offer "I'll turn it down right now."
- make a promise "I'll make sure to keep the volume down."

People often apologize in more than one way. For example, in Exercise 7, Stephanie apologized, gave an excuse, and made a promise.

**A Class activity** How do people usually apologize in your country? What do you usually do when you apologize?

CLASS AUDIO ONLY 

**B**  Listen to three people complaining. What are they complaining about? How does the other person apologize? (More than one answer is possible.)

Complaint	Type of apology			
	give an excuse	admit a mistake	make an offer	make a promise
1. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. ....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

### Requests with modals and Would you mind . . . ?

#### Modal + simple form of verb

Can you turn the stereo down?

Could you leave the door open, please?

Would you please keep the noise down?

#### Would you mind . . . ? + gerund

Would you mind turning the stereo down?

Would you mind not closing the door, please?

Would you mind keeping the noise down?

**A** Match the requests with the appropriate responses. Then compare with a partner and practice them. (More than one answer may be possible.)

1. Could you lend me twenty dollars? .....
2. Would you mind picking up a sandwich for me? .....
3. Can you help me move into my new apartment tomorrow? .....
4. Would you mind not smoking here? .....
5. Would you please move your car? It's blocking my driveway. ....
6. Would you mind not talking so loud? .....

- a. We're sorry. We'll talk more quietly.
- b. Sorry. I'll do it right away.
- c. Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't realize this was the non-smoking section.
- d. Are you kidding? I'm totally broke!
- e. I'm really sorry, but I'm busy.
- f. Sure, no problem. I'd be glad to.

**B Pair work** Take turns making the requests in part A. This time give your own responses.

**C Class activity** Think of five unusual requests. Go around the class and make your requests. How many people accepted and how many refused?



"I'm totally broke!"

## 10 WRITING

**A** Write a letter to a "rich relative," asking him or her to lend you some money. Explain why you need it and when you will pay it back.

Dear Uncle John,

I'm planning to drive across the U.S. by car when I graduate.

The only problem is, I can't afford to buy a car. Would you mind lending me \$4,000 to help me buy one? I'll pay you back as soon as I get a job. . . .

interchange 6

**That's no excuse!**

How good are you at apologizing?  
Turn to page IC-7.

**B Pair work** Exchange letters with a partner. Write a reply to your partner's request.

## 11 READING

## Summer in the Country

How is summer in the country different for young people from summer in the city?



A Fresh Air Fund camp

"Before I came here," one child said, "I thought swimming was running through an open fire hydrant."

"Here" is a summer camp that's only an hour from New York City – but a world away. This camp and four others nearby are run by the Fresh Air Fund. Since 1877, the fund has helped poor children from New York City spend summers in the country. Each year, over ten thousand children, ages 6 to 18, participate in the program. Some stay at a camp; others live with a host family. The fund pays for all expenses.

The camps are for 8- to 15-year-olds. At camp, children can learn about the stars, see deer and cows and other animals, and go hiking, fishing, and of course,

swimming. The children learn responsibility by helping out with chores like making beds and waiting on tables. They also learn a lot from counselors, who are often college students from around the United States and from other countries.

Host families from thirteen states and Canada volunteer to have children spend the summer with them. Many of these families have their own children. The visiting children become part of the family. They go with the family on picnics, to the pool or beach, and on trips. The children are from 6 to 12 years old when they make their first visit, and most are invited back. Some of the children and families become friends for life.



Summer in New York City

**A** Read the article. Imagine you work for the Fresh Air Fund. A mother wants to send her child and calls to ask for information. How would you answer these questions?

1. Is the Fresh Air Fund program new?
2. Are the camps far from New York City?
3. What are some things children do at camp?
4. Does the Fresh Air Fund run only summer camps?
5. Can a 7-year-old go to camp?
6. Can a 7-year-old live with a host family?
7. What are some things children do with host families?
8. Can a child who lives with a host family go back for a second year?

**B Pair work** Talk about these questions. Give reasons for your answers.

1. If you were a child in New York City, would you rather go to a camp or live with a host family?
2. Would you like to be a counselor at a Fresh Air Fund camp?
3. How does the Fresh Air Fund benefit children? host families?

## interchange 6 **THAT'S NO EXCUSE!**

**A Pair work** Look at these situations and act out conversations. Apologize and then give an excuse, admit a mistake, make an offer, or make a promise.

1



*Student A:* You're the customer.  
*Student B:* You're the hairstylist.

*A:* My hair! You ruined my hair!  
*B:* I'm so sorry. I . . . .

2



*Student A:* You own the puppy.  
*Student B:* You own the backpack.

3



*Student A:* You're driving the red car.  
*Student B:* You're driving the blue car.

4



*Student A:* You're the customer.  
*Student B:* You're the cashier.

**B Group work** Have you ever experienced situations like these? What happened? What did you do? Share your stories.