

I'm sorry to hear...

When something bad happens to someone, say this to show you care.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "**I'm sorry to hear** about your car accident."

B: "Thanks. I'm feeling better now."

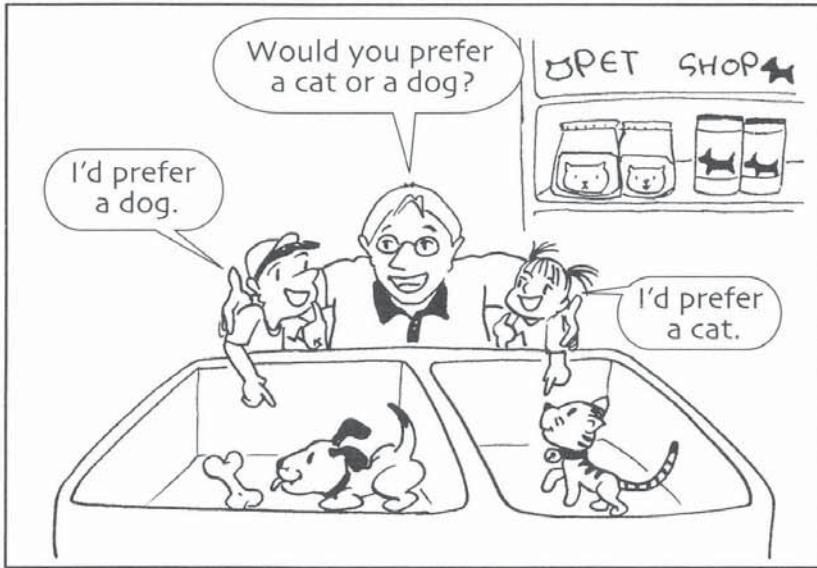
A: "My dog died."

B: "**I'm sorry to hear** that. I know how much you loved your dog."

Would you prefer a or b?

Do you want a or b?

Ask this when you give someone a choice.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Would you prefer coffee or tea?"

B: "Coffee, please."

A: "Would you prefer to meet at my office or yours?"

B: "It's up to you."

For *it's up to you*, see page 338

from now on

starting now and continuing forever



MORE EXAMPLES

"I just won \$10,000! **From now on**, I'm going to take taxis, not buses!"

"Judy is our new receptionist. **From now on**, she will answer the phone."

that's funny

that's strange



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "Did you get my letter?"

B: "No."

A: "**That's funny.** I mailed it two weeks ago."

A: "Sandra isn't here yet."

B: "**That's funny.** She called me two hours ago and said she was on her way."

For *ago*, see page 46

For *on her way*, see page 53

there's nothing I can do (about it)

Say this when you cannot help someone.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "I want to take the 2 o'clock train!"

B: "But, I told you it's fully booked. **There's nothing I can do.**"

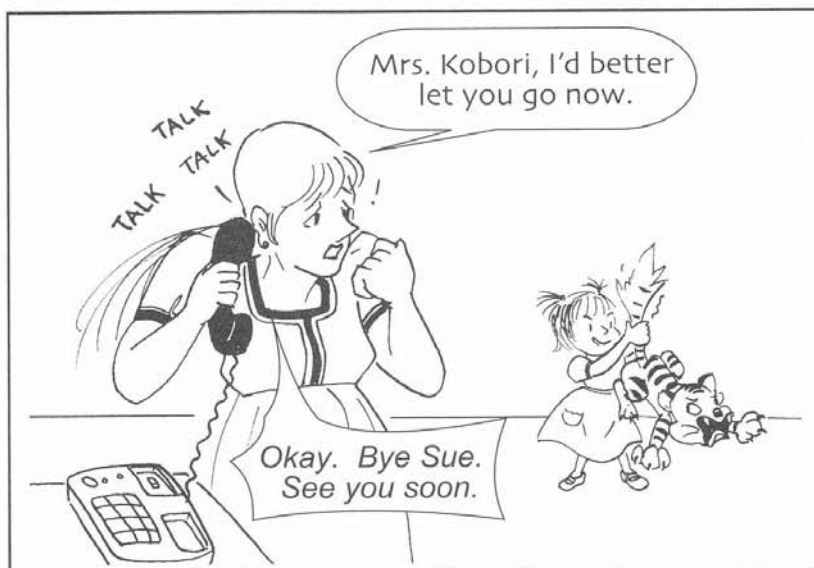
A: "Taxi Driver, please drive faster!"

B: "**There's nothing I can do!** We're stuck in traffic."

For *stuck in traffic*, see page 23

I'd better let you go

Say this to end a phone call politely.



MORE EXAMPLES

A: "I'd better let you go now."

B: "Okay. Keep in touch."

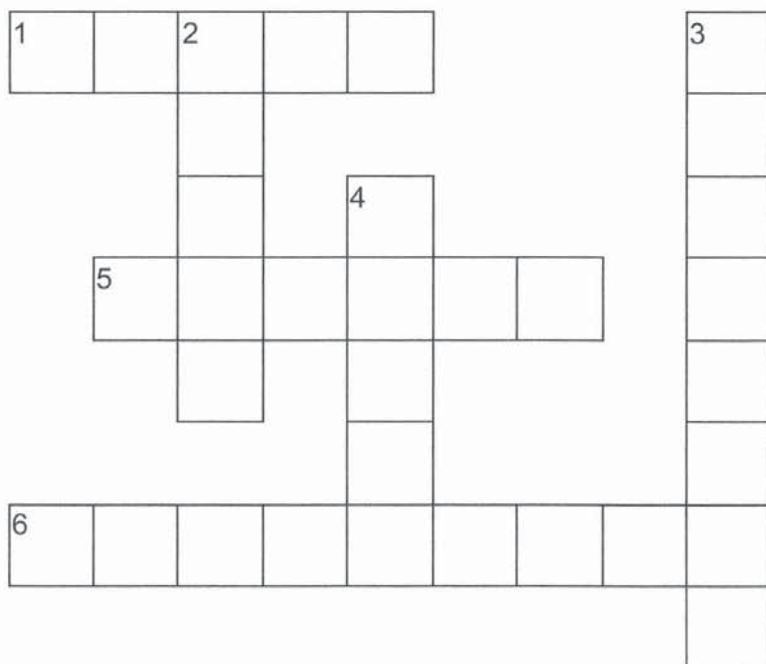
A: "I will. Bye."

A: "I'm sure you're busy. I'd better let you go."

B: "Okay. Nice talking to you."

For *keep in touch*, see page 191

GRAB A PENCIL! • Puzzle #36



ACROSS

- 1) "It didn't rain, but the street is wet. That's ____." ■ "You're right, that is strange!"
- 5) "I'm sorry ____ your mother is sick. I hope she gets better soon."
- 6) "Please lower the price!" ■ "I'm sorry. There's nothing I can _____. You have to speak to the boss."

DOWN

- 2) "I just smoked my last cigarette! I quit! From _____, I will not smoke."
- 3) "How will we get downtown? Would you _____ take the train or the bus?"
- 4) (on the phone) "Jane, I know you're busy. I'd better _____ you _____ now."

For answers, see page 367