



English

Level 4

Small Talk

- How're you doing? What have you been up to this week?
- Eaten?
- What are your plans for this weekend?

Speaking Questions

- What places would you recommend for keeping a child entertained during the holidays?
- Create the world's worst superhero.
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of living with your parents?



Skills: Idioms

across the board: *it applies to everyone; everyone has to do it*

We have some new rules, and these apply across the board, so the teachers will have to do this too.

After the terrible year last year, they made changes across the board.

acid test: *the conclusive test that will prove if it is good or not.*

The numbers work in theory, but the acid test will be when the product goes on the market.

They are top of the league after half a season, but the acid test will be April when they play away to Manchester United, Barcelona, Brazil and Aberdeen. Then we will know how good they are.

a little bird told me: *I heard from someone (but I'm not going to tell you who)*

A little bird told me that you've been dating Dave. Are you sure that is a good idea?

A little bird told me that things aren't going well at your company. Maybe we can talk about transferring you to ours.

Grammar: Present Perfect + already/just/yet/still

The present perfect is used for actions that are finished, but the time is not finished.

I have gone to 5 different places today (going to the place = finished ; today = not finished)

Present Perfect + already

1. for something finished earlier than expected
2. for something finished now, which could have been finished later

3. for something finished and that can't be changed

1. *You're only 18, and you're already married?!*

2. *He's already done his work for the day, so the afternoon is free.*

3. *I would go to the cinema with you, but I've already seen that movie.*

Present Perfect + just

4. for things that have finished / happened very recently

4. *She's just got divorced, so be nice to her.*

Present Perfect + yet

5. for something not finished, but will be finished (or is planned to be finished)

5. *I haven't done my homework yet; I'll do it after dinner.*

Present Perfect + still

6. for negative sentences (haven't) that have not been changed (a similar idea as 'yet' – they should be stopped, but haven't so far)

6. *They still haven't got married? Wow, they have already been dating for 10 years.*

Western Culture: Burns Night (review)

1. Burns Night is a celebration in which country?
2. What date is Burns Night?
3. How do people usually celebrate?
4. What is a haggis made of?

Vocabulary: City Places (review)

Where can I...?

buy bread
 get money
 gamble
 get a visa
 get a boat
 buy meat
 buy cooked meats, cheese, etc.
 watch a football game

port
 bakery
 butcher
 diner
 casino
 stadium
 deli (delicatessen)
 factory
 warehouse
 cafe
 ATM ('cash machine'/'bank machine')
 embassy
 consulate

Dialogue: Booking Flights (part 2)

Anna: Hi. I'm in a hurry. I need the **next flight out of here** to Moscow.

Ticket Agent: Let me see. The next flight is at 2 45, but it's **fully booked**. After that, we have one via Dubai, departing at 4 08.

Anna: **Any chance of** getting on the 2 45?

Ticket Agent: I can put you on **stand-by**.

Anna: That would be great, thanks.

Ticket Agent: And I'll book you on the 4 08.

Anna: Do I have to pay for two tickets?

Ticket Agent: No. **Basically** I book you on the 4 08, but you go on the stand-by list for the 2 45. It's the same ticket.

Anna: Ok. Thank you. **You're a life saver**.

Notes:

- More resources: www.ab51.org
- Speaking practice can be arranged: djamiewills@gmail.com
- Delicious Wednesday English Corner: wechat group 美味周三英语角

