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# English

Level 4

February 9th - 15th, 2015

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## Small Talk

How's life treating you? Everything OK?

How's the family?

Whadaya have planned for the weekend?

## Conversation

If you could save one object from a house fire, what would it be?

What skills do you have that your parents do not? Is there anything you find easy which your parents find impossible?

'Cooking is for girls'. Do you agree?

## Grammar: Stative vs. Active Verbs

Stative verbs describe a state (something that is true, or not changing).  
Active verbs describe an action (something you start, do, and can stop).

Stative verbs generally do not take ...ing.  
Active verbs can take ...ing.

Most verbs are active (do, play, go, eat, sing, weep), but there are some important stative verbs: *be, know, have (possess), like, love, hate, own*.

Because stative verbs do not usually take ...ing, sentences such as 'I am being...' or 'I have been liking...' are almost never used in English.



Structural Phrases  
(review)

Can you use these structures:

(i) That said...?

(ii) Instead of...?

### Flair & Skills: Personification

Personification is the giving of human qualities to non-human things.

It is often used in children's stories (such as Aesop's Fables), and when describing natural elements (sun, wind, rain etc.) or Gods. However it can be used any time.

#### 1. Making non-human objects act as humans

*The duckling looked at the swan and said:  
'I wish I was as beautiful as you.'*

#### 2. Giving human characteristics to elements

*As the man walked along the road, the sun looked down on him and smiled.*

#### 3. As a way to describe something

*Anna threw her coat onto the nearest chair, where it sat lazily by the fire, happy to be out of the rain.*

Vocabulary:  
Positive  
Personalities  
(review)

modest  
easy-going  
disciplined  
considerate  
generous  
responsible  
sincere

## Changing Money (part 1)

Anne: Hi, I'd like to change some money please.

Teller: Sure. What **currencies** would you like to change?

Anne: US Dollars into Euros, if I could.

Teller: Of course. How many dollars would you like to exchange?

Anne: 1000.

Teller: Right, **let's see**. The current exchange rate is 76.5 euro cents **to the** dollar, so \$1000 **comes to** €765.

Anne: Could you give me some **small notes** in that?

Teller: No problem. (counting money) So, here is 5 hundreds, 3 fifties – **making 650** – 3 twenties, making 710, 4 tens which brings us to 750, and 3 fives. Check that, and can I help you with anything else?

Anne: No, **that's all**, thanks.



## Western Culture: John Lennon (review)

1. Where was John Lennon born?
2. Why was he famous?
3. Who was Lennon's songwriting partner?
4. What personal issues led to The Beatles splitting?
5. When, where and how did Lennon die?

