

That Was My Fault: 3 Natural Ways to Own a Mistake

English learning resource · ES

Key words & expressions · English + Spanish

8 learning entries

Study task: Review the audio expressions, then practise the entries labelled Web extra separately.

1

That was my fault

fue culpa mía

DEF

I was responsible for the mistake or problem.

Direct and natural with friends or colleagues. It identifies responsibility for an action, not your worth as a person. There has been a mistake does not identify who caused it.

ES

Yo fui responsable del error o problema.

Directo y natural con amigos o compañeros. Señala una acción, no tu valor como persona. There has been a mistake no identifica al responsable.

That was my fault: I sent the old version.

That was my fault: I sent the old version. → Fue culpa mía: envié la versión antigua.

The booking was wrong, and that was my fault.

The booking was wrong, and that was my fault. → La reserva estaba mal y fue culpa mía.

2

I should have checked

debería haberlo comprobado

DEF

Checking would have been the better action, but I did not check or did not check properly.

Should have + past participle looks back at a missed action. I should check instead gives advice about now or the future; it is not the same time perspective.

ES

Habría sido mejor comprobarlo, pero no lo hice o no lo hice bien.

Should have + participio mira una acción no realizada en el pasado. I should check aconseja sobre ahora o el futuro; cambia la perspectiva temporal.

I should have checked the attachment before sending the email.

I should have checked the attachment before sending the email. → Debería haber comprobado el adjunto antes de enviar el correo.

I should have checked the date before booking.

I should have checked the date before booking. → Debería haber comprobado la fecha antes de reservar.



3

Let me put it right*déjame arreglarlo*

DEF

Let me take action to correct the problem.

Common in British English; Let me fix it is another natural option. Name a concrete action and do not guarantee an outcome outside your control.

ES

Déjame actuar para corregir el problema.

Habitual en inglés británico; Let me fix it es otra opción natural. Indica una acción concreta sin garantizar un resultado que no controlas.

Let me put it right: I will send the correct file.

Let me put it right: I will send the correct file. → Déjame arreglarlo: enviaré el archivo correcto.

Let me put it right by calling the restaurant.

Let me put it right by calling the restaurant. → Déjame arreglarlo llamando al restaurante.

4

I take full responsibility

WEB EXTRA - not spoken in the episode

asumo toda la responsabilidad

DEF

I accept complete responsibility for what happened.

Web-only extension, not spoken in the episode. Stronger and more formal than That was my fault; appropriate for a clear statement of accountability, not necessarily a minor slip.

ES

Acepto la responsabilidad completa por lo ocurrido.

Ampliación exclusiva de la web, no dicha en el episodio. Más fuerte y formal que That was my fault; adecuada para asumir claramente responsabilidades, no necesariamente un despiste menor.

I take full responsibility for the incorrect report.

I take full responsibility for the incorrect report. → Asumo toda la responsabilidad por el informe incorrecto.

I take full responsibility, and I will explain how we will correct it.

I take full responsibility, and I will explain how we will correct it. → Asumo toda la responsabilidad y explicaré cómo lo corregiremos.

5

I owe you an apology

WEB EXTRA - not spoken in the episode

te debo una disculpa

DEF

I recognise that I should apologise to you.

Web-only extension, not spoken in the episode. It introduces a sincere apology; follow it with what you did and an actual apology, not a demand for forgiveness.

ES

Reconozco que debería pedirte disculpas.

Ampliación exclusiva de la web, no dicha en el episodio. Introduce una disculpa sincera; explica lo que hiciste y pide perdón, sin exigir que te perdonen.

I owe you an apology for interrupting you.

I owe you an apology for interrupting you. → Te debo una disculpa por interrumpirte.

I owe you an apology: I blamed you before checking the facts.

I owe you an apology: I blamed you before checking the facts. → Te debo una disculpa: te culpé antes de comprobar los hechos.



6

Thanks for flagging it

WEB EXTRA - not spoken in the episode

gracias por señalarlo / avisarme

DEF

Thank you for bringing that issue to my attention.

Web-only extension, not spoken in the episode. Common in workplace conversation; flag means point out a possible issue, not put a literal flag on it.

ES

Gracias por llamar mi atención sobre ese problema.

Ampliación exclusiva de la web, no dicha en el episodio. Habitual en el trabajo; flag significa señalar una posible incidencia, no poner una bandera literal.

Thanks for flagging it; I will check the figures.

Thanks for flagging it; I will check the figures. → Gracias por señalarlo; revisaré las cifras.

Thanks for flagging it before we sent the report.

Thanks for flagging it before we sent the report. → Gracias por avisarnos antes de enviar el informe.

7

I'll double-check next time

WEB EXTRA - not spoken in the episode

la próxima vez lo comprobaré bien

DEF

I will check again or more carefully on the next occasion.

Web-only extension, not spoken in the episode. A specific promise of greater care, not a guarantee that mistakes can never happen. Double-check is a verb.

ES

Volveré a comprobarlo o lo revisaré con más cuidado la próxima vez.

Ampliación exclusiva de la web, no dicha en el episodio. Promesa concreta de mayor cuidado, no garantía de que nunca habrá errores. Double-check es un verbo.

I will double-check the attachment next time.

I will double-check the attachment next time. → La próxima vez revisaré bien el archivo adjunto.

I'll double-check next time before I confirm the date.

I'll double-check next time before I confirm the date. → La próxima vez lo comprobaré bien antes de confirmar la fecha.

8

I appreciate your patience

WEB EXTRA - not spoken in the episode

te agradezco la paciencia

DEF

I am grateful that you are waiting or dealing calmly with a delay or difficulty.

Web-only extension, not spoken in the episode. Warm but somewhat more formal than Thanks for waiting. Use it sincerely alongside progress or a repair, not instead of action.

ES

Agradezco que esperes o afrontes con calma un retraso o dificultad.

Ampliación exclusiva de la web, no dicha en el episodio. Cálida, algo más formal que Thanks for waiting. Úsala con sinceridad junto a avances o reparación, no en su lugar.

I appreciate your patience while I correct the file.

I appreciate your patience while I correct the file. → Te agradezco la paciencia mientras corrijo el archivo.

I appreciate your patience during the delay.

I appreciate your patience during the delay. → Te agradezco la paciencia durante el retraso.

