VOCABULARY · EPISODE 199

Short Stories with Peter: The Gift of the Magi

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

4 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

save up

DEF

To keep money over time until you have enough for a particular purpose.

Usually followed by for + the thing you want to buy or do.

Della saved up for Jim's Christmas present.

We are saving up for a short trip.

2

give something up

DEF

To stop having, using or doing something, often after making a choice.

It can describe giving up a possession, habit or opportunity; it is not the same as giving something to someone.

Della gave up her hair to buy Jim a gift.

He gave up his free evening to help a friend.

3

hold out

DEF

To extend something toward another person.

It is often used for an object someone is offering or showing to another person.

Jim held out a small package.

She held out her hand to greet the visitor.

4

treasure

DEF

A valuable object or something a person loves deeply.

It can be literal, like a precious object, or figurative, like a person, memory or valued possession.

Her long hair was her greatest treasure.

For him, the old family photograph was a treasure.