Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 211

Could You Check That for Me? Asking About a Problem Politely

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

9 learning entries

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

1

I think there might be a mistake

DEF

A polite way to introduce a possible error without immediately blaming anyone.

I think and might make the claim tentative while leaving room to check the facts.

I think there might be a mistake on my receipt.

I think there might be a mistake with my reservation.

2

could you check that for me?

DEF

A polite request for someone to look at or verify something.

Use this for something directly in front of you and that for something mentioned or farther away.

Could you check that for me?

Could you check this address for me?

3

I was expecting

DEF

A phrase used to explain what you thought would happen or be provided.

It can introduce a difference between your expectation and the actual situation without accusing anyone.

I was expecting two beds.

I was expecting the delivery today.

4

what can we do about it?

DEF

A question inviting another person to discuss a possible solution.

We signals cooperation; ask it after explaining the problem clearly.

The receipt shows two sandwiches; what can we do about it?

The room is unavailable; what can we do about it?

5

Could you take another look?

DEF

A polite request to check something again.

Web-only extra, not spoken in the episode; useful after an initial check.

Could you take another look at the total?

Could you take another look at the booking date?

6

It doesn’t seem to match.

DEF

A tentative way to say that two details appear inconsistent.

Web-only extra, not spoken in the episode; seems makes the observation less categorical. Practice: a receipt price differs from the menu; how could you introduce the mismatch?

The price doesn’t seem to match the menu.

The name on the ticket doesn’t seem to match my ID.

7

Would you mind checking the details?

DEF

A polite request for someone to verify information.

Web-only extra, not spoken in the episode; more indirect than Could you check?

Would you mind checking the delivery address?

Would you mind checking the dates?

8

Is there another option?

DEF

A question asking whether an alternative exists.

Web-only extra, not spoken in the episode; it does not imply that an alternative is guaranteed.

Is there another option if this room is unavailable?

Is there another option for delivery?

9

Could you confirm what happens next?

DEF

A request to clarify the next step in a process.

Web-only extra, not spoken in the episode; useful when the next step or timing is unclear. Practice: a refund was promised, but the timing is unclear; ask what happens next.

Could you confirm what happens next with the refund?

Could you confirm what happens next with my order?