VOCABULARY · EPISODE 215

The Money Conversation: How to Ask for a Pay Rise in English

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

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

1

pay rise

DEF

An increase in the amount someone is paid for work.

Pay rise is common in British English; pay raise is common in American English.

Amina wanted to ask about a pay rise.

She received a pay rise after her annual review.

2

set aside time

DEF

To reserve time for a particular activity.

Set aside can also be used for money or resources; here it is followed by time.

Could we set aside some time to discuss my responsibilities?

I set aside an hour to prepare for the interview.

3

take on

DEF

To accept new work or responsibility.

In this meaning, take on is followed by a task, role or responsibility.

Amina had taken on two new client projects.

He took on the training of new staff.

4

pay review

DEF

A process in which an employer considers someone's pay.

A review is a discussion or decision process; it does not guarantee an increase.

Amina checked the company's pay review policy.

The next pay review is scheduled for January.

5

in light of

DEF

Considering new information or changed circumstances.

This formal phrase often links a request or decision to a reason.

Could my pay be reviewed in light of my new responsibilities?

We changed the schedule in light of the weather forecast.

6

revisit a conversation

DEF

To return to a topic and discuss it again later.

Revisit does not imply that the first conversation failed; it can mark an agreed next step.

Amina asked when they could revisit the conversation.

Let us revisit this conversation after the trial period.

7

follow up

DEF

To contact someone or take action after an earlier conversation.

A follow-up email can record agreed next steps and dates.

Amina asked when she should follow up about the review.

I will follow up next week if I have not heard back.

8

salary expectations

DEF

The amount of pay someone hopes or expects to receive.

The plural form is common in recruitment questions about a desired range.

The next episode will discuss questions about salary expectations.

The recruiter asked about my salary expectations.