VOCABULARY · EPISODE 223

Borrow or Lend? Who Gives and Who Receives? | Precision English

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

4 learning entries

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

1

borrow something from someone

DEF

To receive something temporarily from another person, intending to return it.

Borrow focuses on the receiver; use from before the person providing the item.

I borrowed a book from Julia.

Could I borrow your pen until tomorrow?

2

lend something to someone

DEF

To give something temporarily to another person, expecting it back.

Lend focuses on the giver; lend someone something is another common pattern.

Julia lent a book to Martin.

Could you lend me your umbrella?

3

lend a hand

DEF

To help someone with a task.

A figurative expression; it does not mean lending an actual hand.

Can you lend me a hand with these boxes?

She lent a hand when we moved the table.

4

give something back

DEF

To return something to the person who owns or provided it.

With a pronoun, put it between give and back: give it back.

Martin will give the money back tomorrow.

Please give it back when you have finished.