Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 237

AI Agents for Everyday Life: Your Personal English Practice Partner

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

12 learning entries

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

1

work towards a goal

DEF

Make progress towards something you want to achieve.

It describes continuing effort, not instant success.

Ana works towards her goal one conversation at a time.

They are working towards a better routine.

2

on someone's behalf

DEF

For someone else or as their representative.

It is used with verbs like act and speak; authority depends on context.

Can the assistant act on my behalf?

She spoke to the receptionist on her father's behalf.

3

hand over a decision

DEF

Give someone else the power to decide.

Hand over stresses a transfer of control.

Julia wants ideas without handing over the decision.

He handed over the final choice to the committee.

4

rely on

DEF

Trust or depend on someone or something.

Use the preposition on and check whether the source deserves your trust.

Do not rely on a generated recipe for an allergy.

We rely on the timetable when planning our journey.

5

leave room for

DEF

Allow space or time for something.

It can describe physical space or flexibility in a plan.

Leave room for the unexpected in your week.

The plan leaves room for questions.

6

get lost

DEF

Become unable to find your way.

It can also describe becoming confused by an explanation.

Julia likes getting lost while travelling.

I got lost in the explanation and asked for an example.

7

give someone a hint

DEF

Offer a small clue to help someone find an answer.

A hint supports an attempt without necessarily giving the solution.

Give Ana a hint before showing her the answer.

The teacher gave us a hint about the missing word.

8

at a time

DEF

Separately, in a limited number on each occasion.

One question at a time limits how many are asked together.

Ask me one question at a time.

We practised two phrases at a time.

9

do you happen to know

DEF

A polite way to ask whether someone knows something.

It makes a question less direct, though tone still matters.

Do you happen to know when the work will finish?

Do you happen to know where the station is?

10

find the words

DEF

Manage to express what you mean.

Often used when emotions or a foreign language make speaking difficult.

Ana needs time to find the words.

I could not find the words to thank her.

11

take on a task

DEF

Agree or begin to deal with a task or responsibility.

It suggests accepting work, not necessarily finishing it.

Agents may take on more routine tasks.

She took on the job of organising the meeting.

12

make something your own

DEF

Adapt an idea or skill so it feels personal and natural to you.

It suggests active adaptation rather than copying exactly.

Practise the expression until you can make it your own.

He made the recipe his own by adding lemon.