Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 238

I Watched the Same Film Three Times — and Understood More

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

10 learning entries

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

1

usher

DEF

A person whose job includes helping people find their seats at a cinema or theatre.

In this episode it is a job title; the verb usher can mean to guide someone somewhere.

Juan worked as an usher at a cinema.

An usher showed us to our seats before the play began.

2

in case of

DEF

Used to introduce a situation that might happen, especially one for which someone is prepared.

In case of is followed by a noun; it describes preparation, not a prediction that the event will occur.

Juan had to be ready to help in case of a fire.

Keep this number nearby in case of an emergency.

3

work out

DEF

To understand or find an answer by thinking.

Work out what something means is common in conversation; work out also has unrelated meanings such as exercise.

Juan tried to work out what a word meant.

Can you work out why the train is late?

4

keep moving

DEF

To continue progressing without stopping.

Here it describes a conversation continuing while a listener is still thinking; it can also describe physical movement.

The conversation kept moving while Juan thought about a word.

The queue kept moving even during the rain.

5

give someone a clue

DEF

To provide a piece of information that helps someone understand or solve something.

A clue supports an interpretation but does not guarantee that the guess is correct.

The characters' faces gave Juan clues about their feelings.

Her tone of voice gave me a clue about her mood.

6

catch up

DEF

To reach the same point as someone or something after falling behind.

Catch up is often followed by with; it can refer to progress or information, not only physical movement.

The film did not wait while Juan caught up.

I need a few minutes to catch up with the discussion.

7

consecutive days

DEF

Days that follow each other without a day in between.

Consecutive describes an uninterrupted sequence; it does not mean the same time each day.

Juan watched several showings on consecutive days.

The class meets on three consecutive days.

8

in progress

DEF

Happening at a particular time and not yet finished.

The expression can describe an action already happening when another past event occurred.

'*I was looking*' *describes an action in progress in the past.*

The meeting was in progress when she arrived.

9

make something your own

DEF

To adapt an idea or expression so that it fits your own situation or style.

This idiomatic phrase is figurative; it does not mean legally acquiring ownership.

Martin suggests making the example your own.

She made the recipe her own by adding fresh herbs.

10

give yourself another chance

DEF

To allow yourself to try again after a difficulty or disappointment.

A supportive expression; give takes a reflexive pronoun when the person offering and receiving the chance is the same.

Juan encourages listeners to give themselves another chance.

I made a mistake, but I will give myself another chance.