

Survival Kit The Neighbour

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

10 learning entries

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

1 to break the ice

DEF

To make people feel more relaxed when they first meet.

A common social idiom; the ice represents initial awkwardness.

Introducing yourself properly is a good way to break the ice.

A friendly question broke the ice at the meeting.

2 to properly meet someone

DEF

To be formally introduced and learn who another person is.

Properly adds the idea that earlier brief encounters did not count as a real introduction.

I do not think we have properly met.

We had seen each other before, but we only properly met yesterday.

3 to show genuine interest

DEF

To demonstrate sincere curiosity about another person.

Genuine contrasts with politeness that is only superficial.

Asking about their family shows genuine interest.

Good listeners show genuine interest through follow-up questions.

4 to give someone a hand

DEF

To help someone with a practical task.

Informal and very common; it does not literally refer to giving your hand.

I can give you a hand with the shopping.

Could you give me a hand moving this table?

5 to take in a parcel

DEF

To receive and keep a delivery temporarily for someone else.

Especially common in British English when speaking about neighbours.

I can take in a parcel if you are away.

Our neighbour took the parcel in for us.



6

to settle in

DEF

To become comfortable in a new home, job or community.

Intransitive here; settle someone in is the transitive form.

How have you been settling in?

It took her a few weeks to settle in at work.

7

to get to know someone

DEF

To gradually learn more about a person and build a relationship.

It describes a process, unlike meet, which can happen once.

I would love to get to know you properly.

We got to know each other during the course.

8

no pressure

DEF

Used to show that someone is free to refuse or decide later.

A friendly conversational phrase that reduces social obligation.

We should have coffee sometime—no pressure.

You can answer tomorrow; there is no pressure.

9

to show up with warmth

DEF

To approach a situation with friendliness and emotional openness.

Show up can describe not only arriving, but also the attitude you bring.

People remember the warmth you showed up with.

She always shows up with warmth and patience.

10

to turn a stranger into someone you know

DEF

To create a connection with a person who was previously unfamiliar.

A figurative pattern: turn A into B means transform one state into another.

A short conversation can turn a stranger into someone you know.

Shared routines turned the neighbours into friends.

