FIRST STEPS ENGLISH FOR BEGINNERS

The Last Bus

Episode 1 of A Chance for Maya | Complete transcript

This is a complete reading guide for the episode. Listen first if you can. Then use the transcript to notice the story, the useful sentences, and the English sounds.

AI voice notice

The voices in this podcast are AI-generated to help you understand and practise English.

Introduction

Peter: A new town.

Peter: Maya needs her room tonight.

Peter: But the last bus is gone.

Peter: Welcome to First Steps.

Peter: I'm Peter.

Peter: This is the first of ten programs in A Chance for Maya.

Peter: You'll learn introductions, asking for help, and travel words.

Peter: Hear the whole conversation at natural speed.

Peter: Then we'll explain it step by step, slowly.

First listening The complete conversation at natural speed

The dialogue below is heard as one complete scene.

Maya: Excuse me.

Maya: Is that the last bus?

Leo: Yes.

Leo: It just left.

Maya: Oh... I missed it.

Maya: I arrived today.

Leo: Are you new here?

Maya: Yes. I'm Maya.

Maya: My room is on Maple Street.

Maya: Number twelve.

Leo: I'm Leo.

Leo: I work at the café.

Leo: I know that street.

Maya: Can you help me?

Leo: Of course.

Leo: Come with me.

Maya: Thank you.

Maya: I was worried.

Leo: It's okay.

Leo: We'll find your room.

Maya: This is number twelve.

Maya: The blue door!

Leo: Yes.

Leo: We found it.

Maya: But the door is locked.

Maya: I don't have a key.

Leo: Maybe there is a note.

Leo: Let's look.

Maya: Okay.

Maya: Let's look together.

Dive In

The same conversation is heard again in three slow parts. Peter explains the most important words and ideas.

Part 1 The bus stop

Peter: Let's dive in. First, the bus stop.

Maya: Excuse me.

Maya: Is that the last bus?

Leo: Yes.

Leo: It just left.

Maya: Oh... I missed it.

Maya: I arrived today.

Peter: The last bus means no more buses tonight.

Peter: It just left a moment ago.

Peter: I missed it means Maya was too late.

Part 2 The street

Peter: Now, the street. Listen to Maya ask for help.

Leo: Are you new here?

Maya: Yes. I'm Maya.

Maya: My room is on Maple Street.

Maya: Number twelve.

Leo: I'm Leo.

Leo: I work at the café.

Leo: I know that street.

Maya: Can you help me?

Leo: Of course.

Leo: Come with me.

Maya: Thank you.

Maya: I was worried.

Leo: It's okay.

Leo: We'll find your room.

Peter: I was worried means Maya did not feel calm.

Part 3 The blue door

Peter: At number twelve, listen for a new problem.

Maya: This is number twelve.

Maya: The blue door!

Leo: Yes.

Leo: We found it.

Maya: But the door is locked.

Maya: I don't have a key.

Leo: Maybe there is a note.

Leo: Let's look.

Maya: Okay.

Maya: Let's look together.

Peter: They found the building, not the room yet.

Peter: A note is a short written message.

Peter: Maybe means Leo is not sure.

Useful Sentences

Peter: Useful Sentences.

Peter: I'm Maya. At a new class, say, I'm Alex.

Peter: Can you help me? At a station, say, Can you help me find my bus?

Peter: Of course. At home, say, Of course, I can help.

Pay Attention

Peter: Pay Attention.

Peter: Closed means not open.

Peter: Locked means a lock stops a door opening.

Peter: A lock needs a key.

Peter: A closed door may be unlocked.

Peter: Locked has one syllable and ends with a t sound.

Shadowing

Peter: Repeat after me, then hear the conversation at natural speed.

Peter: I'm Maya.

[4-second pause]

Peter: Can you help me?

[4-second pause]

Peter: Of course.

[4-second pause]

Final listening

The complete conversation is heard again at natural speed, using the same dialogue as the first listening.

Maya: Excuse me.

Maya: Is that the last bus?

Leo: Yes.

Leo: It just left.

Maya: Oh... I missed it.

Maya: I arrived today.

Leo: Are you new here?

Maya: Yes. I'm Maya.

Maya: My room is on Maple Street.

Maya: Number twelve.

Leo: I'm Leo.

Leo: I work at the café.

Leo: I know that street.

Maya: Can you help me?

Leo: Of course.

Leo: Come with me.

Maya: Thank you.

Maya: I was worried.

Leo: It's okay.

Leo: We'll find your room.

Maya: This is number twelve.

Maya: The blue door!

Leo: Yes.

Leo: We found it.

Maya: But the door is locked.

Maya: I don't have a key.

Leo: Maybe there is a note.

Leo: Let's look.

Maya: Okay.

Maya: Let's look together.

Listening and vocabulary practice

Complete each sentence with one word or short phrase from the story. Do this page before you turn to the answers.

1. Maya asks, “Is that the _____ bus?”

2. Leo says, “It just _____.”

3. Maya says, “I _____ it.”

4. Maya’s room is on _____ Street.

5. The room number is _____.

6. Leo works at the _____.

7. Maya asks, “Can you _____ me?”

8. Maya says, “I was _____.”

9. The blue door is _____.

10. Leo says, “Maybe there is a _____.”

Answers - listening and vocabulary practice

1. last
2. left
3. missed
4. Maple
5. twelve
6. café
7. help
8. worried
9. locked
10. note

Goodbye

Peter: Thank you for listening and see you in the next episode.

The voices in this podcast are AI-generated to help you understand and practise English.

Complete Peter narration

This appendix completes the transcript: it contains every spoken line by Peter, in the order heard in the episode. The dialogue by Maya, Leo and Nora is in the preceding transcript pages. Repeated character conversations are identified there as repeated listens; Peter's spoken explanations, prompts, promotion, goodbye and both AI notices are written in full here.

Opening AI notice

Peter: The voices in this podcast are AI-generated to help you understand and practise English.

Peter - opening

Peter: A new town.

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Peter: But the last bus is gone.

Peter: Welcome to First Steps.

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Dive In - bus

Peter: Let's dive in.

Peter: First, the bus stop.

Peter: The last bus means no more buses tonight.

Peter: It just left a moment ago.

Peter: I missed it means Maya was too late.

Dive In - street

Peter: Now, the street.

Peter: Listen to Maya ask for help.

Peter: I was worried means Maya did not feel calm.

Dive In - blue door

Peter: At number twelve, listen for a new problem.

Peter: They found the building, not the room yet.

Peter: A note is a short written message.

Peter: Maybe means Leo is not sure.

Useful sentences

Peter: Useful Sentences.

Peter: I'm Maya.

Peter: At a new class, say, I’m Alex.

Peter: Can you help me?

Peter: At a station, say, Can you help me find my bus?

Peter: Of course.

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Pay Attention

Peter: Pay Attention.

Peter: Closed means not open.

Peter: Locked means a lock stops a door opening.

Peter: A lock needs a key.

Peter: A closed door may be unlocked.

Peter: Locked has one syllable and ends with a t sound.

Shadowing

Peter: Repeat after me, then hear the conversation at natural speed.

Peter: I'm Maya.

Peter: [4-second pause]

Peter: Can you help me?

Peter: [4-second pause]

Peter: Of course.

Peter: [4-second pause]

Closing

Peter: Before you go, you can download the transcript for this episode in the episode description.

Peter: Read it as you listen again, and notice the words you understand now.

Peter: Thank you for listening and see you in the next episode.

Peter: The voices in this podcast are AI-generated to help you understand and practise English.