FIRST STEPS ENGLISH FOR BEGINNERS

Just for a Few Days

Episode 3 of A Chance for Maya | Complete transcript and listening practice

Maya has a room, but only for two weeks. At the library, Nora notices that Maya needs information and points to a job notice at the café.

AI voice notice

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

What you will learn

- say clearly what you need
- talk about a short time limit
- ask about a number and understand a job notice

First listening - complete conversation at natural speed

Listen first if you can. The dialogue below is the complete scene.

Nora: Hi. Are you looking for something?

Maya: Yes. I need a job.

Nora: I see. Are you staying here?

Maya: Yes, but just for a few days.

Nora: How many days?

Maya: I have two weeks.

Nora: Two weeks. That is not much time.

Maya: No. I need information.

Nora: There is a notice at the café.

Maya: A job notice?

Nora: Yes. Let’s read it.

Dive In - understand the story slowly

Peter returns to the scene slowly. Notice the key words, then listen again at natural speed.

I need a job

Meaning: a clear, useful sentence for an important need now

In the story: “I need a job.”

Everyday English: “I need a teacher.”

just for a few days

Meaning: only for a short time

In the story: “I am here just for a few days.”

Everyday English: “We are here just for two nights.”

How many?

Meaning: a question about a number

In the story: “How many days?”

Everyday English: “How many tickets?”

a notice

Meaning: a short public message with information

In the story: “There is a notice at the café.”

Everyday English: “Read the notice on the wall.”

Useful sentences

Nora: Hi. Are you looking for something?

Maya: Yes. I need a job.

Nora: I see. Are you staying here?

Maya: Yes, but just for a few days.

Nora: How many days?

Shadowing

Repeat during the four-second silence after each sentence.

Read and say three useful sentences from the story:

Peter: Yes. I need a job.

[4-second pause]

Peter: I see. Are you staying here?

[4-second pause]

Peter: Yes, but just for a few days.

[4-second pause]

Listening and vocabulary practice

Complete this page before you turn to the answers.

1. Maya says, “I need a _____.”
2. Maya is staying for a few _____.
3. Nora asks, “How _____ days?”
4. Maya has two _____.
5. Two weeks is not much _____.
6. Maya needs _____.
7. Nora sees a _____ at the café.
8. The notice is about a _____.
9. “Just” often means _____.
10. We say two _____, with an s.

Answers - listening and vocabulary practice

1. job
2. days
3. many
4. weeks
5. time
6. information
7. notice
8. job
9. only
10. weeks

Final listening

Listen to the complete conversation again at natural speed. You will hear the same dialogue as at the beginning.

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: Maya has a room for two weeks.

Peter: But she needs a job.

Peter: At the library, Nora asks a simple question.

Peter: Maya gives an honest answer.

Peter: Welcome to episode three of A Chance for Maya.

Peter: Today, you will practise saying what you need and how much time you have.

Peter: First, listen to the whole conversation at natural speed.

Peter: Then we will explore it slowly, step by step.

Dive In - part one

Peter: Let's listen to the first part again.

Peter: This time, slowly.

Peter: Nora asks if Maya is looking for something.

Peter: Maya says, I need a job.

Peter: I need is a clear way to say something is important for you now.

Peter: Just for a few days means only for a short time.

Dive In - part two

Peter: Now, the second part.

Peter: Listen for the time and the new information.

Peter: How many asks about a number.

Peter: Maya has two weeks.

Peter: That is not much time means two weeks feels short for finding work.

Peter: A notice is a short public message with information.

Useful sentences

Peter: Useful sentences.

Peter: I need a job.

Peter: At school, you can say, I need a teacher.

Peter: Just for a few days.

Peter: At a hotel, you can say, I am here just for two nights.

Peter: I have two weeks.

Peter: At work, you can say, I have two days to finish this.

Pay Attention

Peter: Pay attention.

Peter: Just often means only.

Peter: Maya is here only for a few days.

Peter: We say two weeks, with an s.

Peter: We say one week, without an s.

Peter: Listen to job.

Peter: The final sound is b.

Shadowing

Peter: Now, a short shadowing practice.

Peter: Listen to each sentence.

Peter: Repeat during the four-second pause.

Peter: I need a job.

Peter: [4-second pause]

Peter: Just for a few days.

Peter: [4-second pause]

Peter: I have two weeks.

Peter: [4-second pause]

Closing

Peter: Before you go, follow Your English Toolbox on Instagram.

Peter: We share free mini-lessons and useful reels to help you learn every day.

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.