

New Year's resolutions¹

Listen to a group of friends talking about their New Year's resolutions.



Before you listen

Vocabulary

You have to do the following vocabulary activity below before you listen. Then listen to the podcast and do the first task to check your understanding. Finally, practice some vocabulary and grammar.

1. new year's resolutions	2. to fix	3. chef	4. a date
5. to wonder	6. a chance	7. supposed	8. website

Definitions

Word

- | | |
|---|-------|
| A. A professional cook in a restaurant | _____ |
| B. Thought to be something or somehow | _____ |
| C. To think about and try to understand. | _____ |
| D. To mend | _____ |
| E. A romantic meeting | _____ |
| F. A promise that is made to one's self on 1 st January. | _____ |
| G. An opportunity | _____ |
| H. A series of pages in a certain location on the internet | _____ |

After you listen

Comprehension task

Match up

Decide who does the following things.

- | Olivia | Sarah | Bindyu | Harry | Fadi | Johnny | Carlos |
|----------|--|--------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| 1. _____ | enjoys saying "Happy New Year". | | | | | |
| 2. _____ | has a problem with her website. | | | | | |
| 3. _____ | recommends somebody to help Olivia. | | | | | |
| 4. _____ | offers to fix the web page. | | | | | |
| 5. _____ | isn't happy that her boyfriend is going to fix the web page. | | | | | |
| 6. _____ | wants to ask somebody cut on a date. | | | | | |
| 7. _____ | is the last person to arrive at the café. | | | | | |

¹ Source: <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/sites/podcasts/files/BCSW%20-%20S2E9%20support%20pack.pdf>

Grammar task

Look at the sentences A-H and complete the rules 1-2 with the words given below.

Example sentences

- A. You are supposed to say
- B. They were supposed to be new.
- C. I can help.
- D. We can do it all again.
- E. You need to practice.
- F. I need to fix it.
- G. You should decide to do something.
- H. He should ask her out.

Rules

The infinitive **without to**

The infinitive **with to**

1. We use _____ after “supposed” and “need”.
2. We use _____ after “can” and “should” (and most modal verbs).

Vocabulary task

Match up

Match the two parts to make eight common informal expressions.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Let's _____ | A. there! |
| 2. Oh _____ | B. the problem? |
| 3. Shut _____ | C. please! |
| 4. What's _____ | D. know! |
| 5. Hello _____ | E. up? |
| 6. What's _____ | F. up! |
| 7. You _____ | G. on! |
| 8. Go _____ | H. wait |

Answer key

Vocabulary:

- 1. F
- 2. D
- 3. A
- 4. E
- 5. C
- 6. G
- 7. B
- 8. H

Comprehension task:

1. Johnny
2. Olivia
3. Fadi
4. Harry
5. Bindyu
6. Carlos
7. Sarah

Grammar task

1. The infinitive with to
2. The infinitive without to

Vocabulary task

1. H
2. C
3. F
4. E
5. A
6. B
7. D
8. G

Transcript

Johnny: Happy New Year!

Fadi: Stop, please! Enough New Year!

Johnny: It's the first time I've seen you this year! You're supposed to say 'Happy New Year!'

Fadi: OK,OK... Happy New Year to you too, then!

Johnny: It will be Chinese New Year soon – then we can do it all again!

Fadi: Fine, OK, let's wait until then, though, eh?

Magda: Hello everyone!

Fadi /Johnny: Hi!

Magda: Happy New Year!

Fadi: Oh, please!

Magda: I'm only trying to be friendly...

Fadi: Yeah, sure, sorry... Can we think about something else now please?

Magda: Have you made any New Year's resolutions?

Johnny: New Year's what?

Magda: New Year's resolutions. Olivia told me about it - at the beginning of the year, you should decide to do something, and do it all year.

Johnny: What kind of thing?

Fadi: Something like stop smoking, or go to the gym every day, or study more...

All: Hi Olivia! Hey! Hello!

Olivia: Hmmph. Tony – could I have a large coffee please? Make it extra strong!

Fadi: Looks like someone's having a bad day!

Olivia: Oh shut up Fadi!

Fadi: Sorry!

Magda: What's up, Olivia?

Olivia: My website isn't working properly. I need to fix it.

Fadi: Here's the right man to help you!

Harry: Hello there! Are you talking about me?

Olivia: I've got problems with my website again...

Harry: I told you I should have set it up the first time! You should have asked me!

Olivia: OK, OK... you were right...

Harry: So what's the problem?

Olivia: The online sales page doesn't work. People can't buy my shoes!

Harry: I'm sure I can help fix it.

Olivia: Go on then. Come over to my flat tonight, and we'll have a look.

Bindyu: Oh, sorry Olivia. I'm not sure he can come to your flat tonight.

Harry: Yeah, I can. I'm not busy tonight.

Bindyu: I thought we were going to the cinema?

Harry: Were we? Sorry, I didn't know. I'd like to help Olivia, if I can...

Bindyu: Hmmphh.

Olivia: Oh, listen Harry... don't worry if you can't come and help.

Harry: No. I'll come. I love websites – you know!

Johnny: Here's another one of our friends... Thank goodness for that...

All: Hello Carlos!

Carlos: Hello there!

Magda: We were talking about New Year's resolutions. What's yours?

Carlos: New Year's what?

Magda: New Year's resolution - at the beginning of the year, you should decide to do something, and do it all year.

Carlos: Oh, I see... well, I want to be a chef...

Fadi: We know that, it's not new.

Johnny: It has to be something new!

Magda: Yes – something you want to do this year!

Carlos: Oh. OK... I see, well... let me think... something I want to do this year... I know, I want to ask Sarah out on a date!

All: Wow!

Magda: Oh... well... it looks like you have a chance right now, Carlos!

Sarah: Hello everyone! Were you talking about me?

Carlos: Well, no, erm yes, I mean...

Magda: Go on, Carlos!

Fadi: Carlos has got a question to ask you...

Sarah: Oh, yes?

Carlos: Oh, yes, erm... well... I was wondering if... erm...

Sarah: If?

Carlos: Yes, if you'd like to...erm... I don't know... perhaps... erm... go out some time?

Sarah: Go out with you?

Carlos: Well, yeah, I mean, if you want to...

Sarah: Oh, well... erm... what I think is...