

Checking understanding

In this video, Paul has problems understanding Bob. Listen to the language they use for checking understanding and practise saying the useful phrases.

Before watching

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Put the words and phrases in order to make sentences.

1. sorry. I'm
2. very well. hear you I can't
3. that Could say again, please? you
4. don't understand. I
5. more slowly, Can please? that you repeat
6. you Do the hammer? mean
7. Is it? this
8. that's Yes, right!

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. Bob wants the hammer.	True	False
2. Paul is ill.	True	False
3. The hammer is in the toolbox.	True	False
4. The hammer is on the right.	True	False
5. Paul gives Bob the scissors.	True	False
6. Paul thinks Bob spoke clearly.	True	False

Task 2

Complete the dialogue with words from the box.

repeat	slowly	this
right	hear	sorry
understand	mean	well

Bob: Excuse me, Paul, could you pass me the hammer?

Paul: I'm (1)..... , Bob, my ears are blocked. I can't (2)..... you very (3)..... . Could you say that again, please?

Bob: The hammer. Please could you pass it to me?

Paul: Sorry, Bob, I don't (4)..... .

Bob: No, Paul – I need the hammer. It's in the toolbox, on the left, under the scissors.

Paul: Sorry, Bob. Can you (5)..... that more (6)..... , please?

Bob: The hammer ... in the toolbox ... on the left ... under the scissors.

Paul: On the left ... under the scissors ... Ah! Do you (7)..... the hammer? Is (8)..... it?

Bob: Yes, that's (9)..... !

Task 3

Complete the dialogue.

Receptionist: (Phone ringing) Good morning.

Caller: Good morning. Is Noelia there, please?

Receptionist: I'm (1)..... . I can't (2)..... you very well.

Caller: Noelia. I have a package for her. I'm in a van in the street.

Receptionist: I'm sorry. Could you (3)..... that (4)..... , please?

Caller: I'm in a van. I've got a package for Noelia.

Receptionist: Ah! OK. You can park here. The code is 367HGV57.

Caller: OK. Do you (5)..... the company car park?

Receptionist: Yes.

Caller: OK. Sorry, can you (6)..... the code more (7)..... , please?

Receptionist: Yes, sorry! 3 ... 6 ... 7 ... H ... G ... V ... 5 ... 7.

Caller: OK. 367 ... HGV ... 57?

Receptionist: Yes, that's (8)..... !

Discussion

Did you find the video useful?

Transcript

Ana: Hi, I'm Ana. Welcome to *What to Say!*

Do you know what to say when you want to check your understanding? Listen out for useful language for checking your understanding. Then, we'll practise saying the new phrases – after this.

Bob: This isn't right. Hey! Excuse me, Paul, could you pass me the hammer?

Paul: Sorry, Bob, my ears are blocked. I can't hear you very well. Could you say that again, please?

Bob: The hammer. Please could you pass it to me?

Paul: The spanner?

Bob: No. The hammer!

Paul: Sorry, Bob, I don't understand. This is the spanner!

Bob: No, Paul, I need the hammer. It's in the toolbox, on the left, under the scissors.

Paul: Sorry, Bob. Could you repeat that more slowly, please?

Bob: The hammer ... in the toolbox ... on the left ... under the scissors.

Paul: On the left ... under the scissors ... Oh! Do you mean the hammer? Is this it?

Bob: Yes, that's right!

Paul: Ah! Why didn't you say so?

Bob: I did!

Ana: Hello again! Oh dear. I think Paul needs to go home and sleep. So, did you notice the useful phrases used for checking your understanding? Listen to me and then repeat.

I'm sorry?

I can't hear you very well.

Could you say that again, please?

I don't understand.

Can you repeat that more slowly, please?

Do you mean the hammer?

Is this it?

Yes, that's right!

Ana: Try and use some of these phrases the next time you want to check your understanding in English. Bye for now!

Answers

Preparation task

1. I'm sorry.
2. I can't hear you very well.
3. Could you say that again, please?
4. I don't understand.
5. Can you repeat that more slowly, please?
6. Do you mean the hammer?
7. Is this it?
8. Yes, that's right!

Task 1

1. True
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. False
6. False

Task 2

1. sorry
2. hear
3. well
4. understand
5. repeat
6. slowly
7. mean
8. this
9. right

Task 3

1. sorry
2. hear
3. say
4. again
5. mean
6. repeat / say
7. slowly / clearly
8. right / it / correct