



Making a Promise

Conversation > Intermediate 5



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

set up	To arrange, organize.
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: I have to go now, I have to set up the conference room.</i>

count on	To trust somebody to do something.
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: You can count on me. I will be there.</i>

fall in love with	To start being in love with someone.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: She fell in love with her neighbor but never told anybody.</i>

keep (one's) word	To do what you promised.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: He told me he would keep his word.</i>

my lips are sealed	Used to say that you will keep a secret and not tell anyone about it.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Don't worry, my lips are sealed.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Nate: Hannah, what are your plans for tomorrow? Are you busy?

Hannah: Not really. Why?

Nate: I want to set up a date with Lisa.

Hannah: Really!? That is so sweet! How can I help?

Nate: I want to go to the flower shop and buy some flowers for her.

Hannah: That sounds amazing!



Nate: However, I have no idea what kind of flowers she would like.

Hannah: That's not a problem. I promise to help you tomorrow.

Nate: Really? Can I count on you?

Hannah: Sure, no problem. I really hope she falls in love with you.

Nate: Do you promise not to tell her?

Hannah: Don't worry, I'll keep my word. My lips are sealed.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool

my lips are sealed
kept her word
falling in love with
set up
count on

1. They want to fight with me! Can I _____ you?
2. I'm _____ this guy at the office.
3. We need to _____ a meeting next Monday.
4. Hey, I can keep a secret, _____.
5. She _____ and picked me up after work.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: You have a secret that you want to share with your best friend Susan, make your best friend promise not to tell anyone. The teacher can be Susan.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. What kind of promises do you make to your friends and family?
2. Do you often make promises? Do you keep your word?
3. Do you think keeping your word is important? Why do you think so?
4. Have you ever broken a promise that you have made to someone? Why?
5. How would you feel if your friend broke a promise to you?