



Education

Conversation > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

preschool education	Education for children before they enter elementary school.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Preschool education is important for children's social development.</i>

have a lot on (one's) plate	To have a lot of work or problems to deal with.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I'm sorry, but I can't accept that job. I have a lot on my plate already.</i>

sort of	Used to qualify a statement as only partially accurate or true.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I'm sort of frustrated with my current job.</i>



oriented	Added to nouns and adverbs to form adjectives which describe what someone or something is mainly interested in or concerned with.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: She is a career-oriented person and her job is always her first priority.</i>

skeptical	Doubting whether something is true/useful or not.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: They both have skeptical looks on their faces.</i>

come in handy	To be useful when needed.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Your money will come in handy when you need it.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

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

Kate: Thanks so much for coming around and helping out, Nicole.

Nicole: Don't worry about it! I know you have a lot on your plate right now.

Kate: Oh, yes! I surely do. It's really tiring.

Nicole: I imagine everything in your life is so baby-oriented at the moment.

Kate: Sort of. I'm trying to figure out where to go for the best preschool education.

Nicole: You're very organized! It'll be a while before the baby goes to preschool.



Kate: I think finding a place early will come in handy. I'm organized now, but it will be hard to keep it up.

Nicole: Yeah there are a lot of different options for preschools. I'm skeptical about a lot of them though.

Kate: Me too. All I want is a fun environment with skillful teachers.

Nicole: That's a hard thing to find, Kate.

Kate: So far it's been sort of frustrating. I just want to stop worrying about it.

Nicole: You're probably right to start early in that case.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

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

Answer Pool

come in handy

sort of

skeptical

oriented

have a lot on my plate

Preschool education

1. It will _____. Just be patient, don't throw it away!
2. Many analysts are _____ about the company's ability to succeed.
3. Hotels are a service-_____ industry.
4. I _____ right now. Can you call someone else?
5. I'm _____ confused about what I should do next.
6. _____ is of utmost importance.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

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

Scene: You want to find a preschool for your child. Talk to your friend George about it. The teacher can be George.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. Are you for or against preschool education? Why?
2. Did you go to preschool? Why? Why not?
3. What do you think about preschool education in your country?
4. Do you think that the earlier people start learning English, the faster they get acquainted with it?
5. Do you agree that it's never too late to learn something new? Why? Why not?