M: Hello English learners! Welcome back to **EnglishPod**! My name is **Marco**.

E: And I'm **Erica**.

M: And today we're bringing you another **sci-fi** lesson for all of those fans out there of **Star Trek** and **Star Wars**.

E: That's right. And today we're gonna focus on, uh, some phrases. We're not gonna do any vocabulary today. We just gonna learn some phrases that you'll find relating to **science fiction**.

M: Okay, very good. So, why don't we listen to our dialogue for the first time? And we'll come back and look at all these phrases.

DIALOGUE, FIRST TIME

M: Alright, very good. Star Trek fans, apparently they were trying to **act out** one of the famous episodes, where the Klingon's attack the Enterprise.

E: My goodness! Hehe.

M: Hehe.

E: I don't know a lot about, um, Star Trek, but I do know a lot about language. And we've got some great stuff here that will help you understand, um, sci-fi movies and TV shows in English a little bit better. So, why don't we go now to "**fluency builder**"?

Voice: Fluency builder.

M: Alright, so, the first phrase that we have today on fluency builder – **unidentified ship**.

E: An unidentified ship.
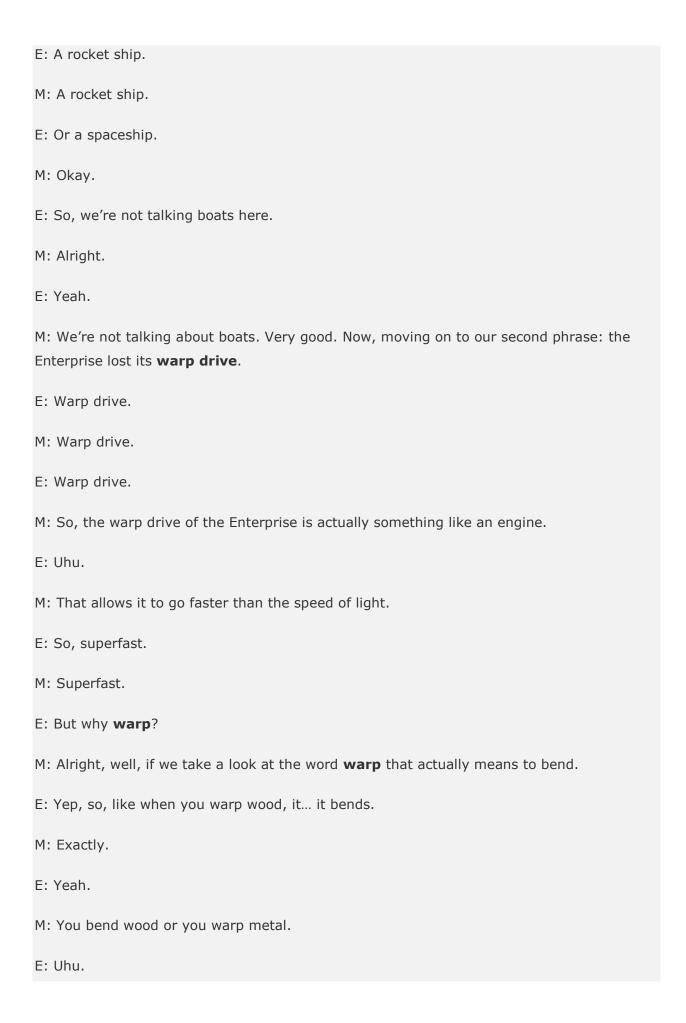
M: Unidentified ship.

E: Unidentified ship.

M: If we break it down and look at the first word – **unidentified**.
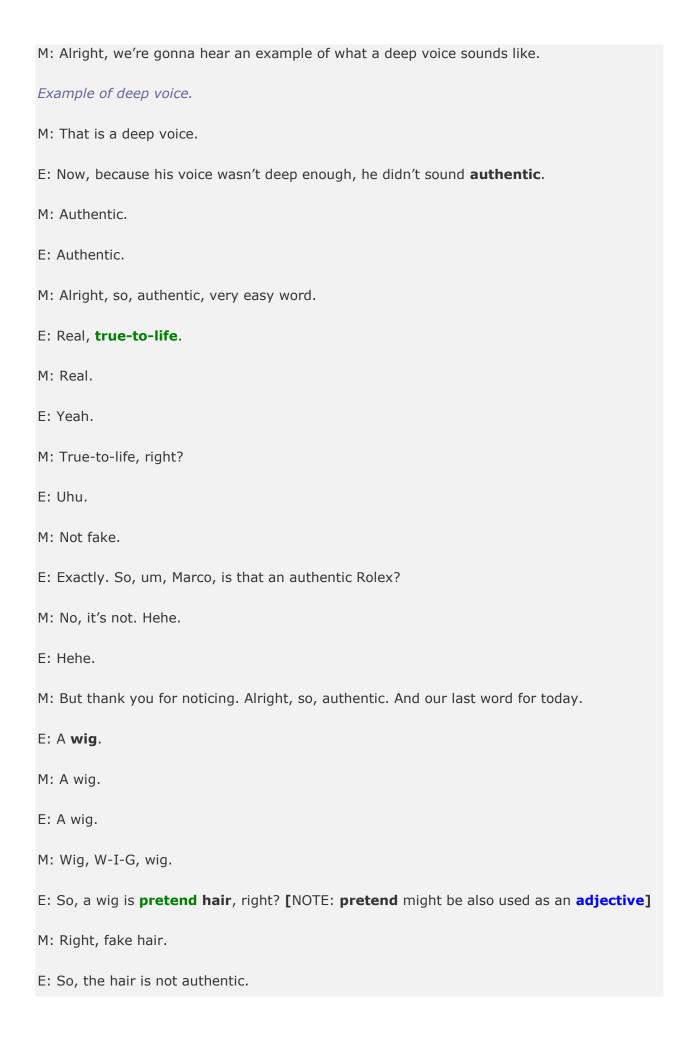
E: You don't know which one it is.

M: Okay, you don't know the identity.

E: Yep.

M: And a **ship**, I guess that's short for…

E: A rocket ship.

M: A rocket ship.

E: Or a spaceship.

M: Okay.

E: So, we're not talking boats here.

M: Alright.

E: Yeah.

M: We're not talking about boats. Very good. Now, moving on to our second phrase: the Enterprise lost its **warp drive**.

E: Warp drive.

M: Warp drive.

E: Warp drive.

M: So, the warp drive of the Enterprise is actually something like an engine.

E: Uhu.

M: That allows it to go faster than the speed of light.

E: So, superfast.

M: Superfast.

E: But why **warp**?

M: Alright, well, if we take a look at the word **warp** that actually means to bend.

E: Yep, so, like when you warp wood, it… it bends.

M: Exactly.

E: Yeah.

M: You bend wood or you warp metal.

E: Uhu.

M: And, well, that's kind of the theory behind it is that they're going so fast, that they bend or warp time.

E: Okay, so, warp drive. I think it… a very sci-fi specific phrase here.

M: Right. Alright and for our third phrase today – **search party**.

E: Search party.

M: A search party.

E: A search party.

M: Okay, so, wh… what is this? Are we having a party? Wh… what's going on?

E: Well, when somebody gets lost…

M: Uhu.

E: Um, you know, maybe in the woods or something, you send out a search party to find them.

M: So, a **party** would be a group of people.

E: Exactly.

M: So, that also happens in restaurants, I think, right?

E: Right, sometimes you might say "how many people in your party?"

M: In your party.

E: Uhu.

M: Very good. So, party – group of people.

E: Alright, so, in the dialogue we saw that actually these were not real Star Trek characters, but they're just acting. But it didn't sound quite right, right?

M: Yeah, he said that his voice is deeper.

E: So, a **deep voice**.

M: Deep voice.

E: A deep voice.

M: Alright, we're gonna hear an example of what a deep voice sounds like.

Example of deep voice.

M: That is a deep voice.

E: Now, because his voice wasn't deep enough, he didn't sound **authentic**.

M: Authentic.

E: Authentic.

M: Alright, so, authentic, very easy word.

E: Real, **true-to-life**.

M: Real.

E: Yeah.

M: True-to-life, right?

E: Uhu.

M: Not fake.

E: Exactly. So, um, Marco, is that an authentic Rolex?

M: No, it's not. Hehe.

E: Hehe.

M: But thank you for noticing. Alright, so, authentic. And our last word for today.

E: A **wig**.

M: A wig.

E: A wig.

M: Wig, W-I-G, wig.

E: So, a wig is **pretend** **hair**, right? **[**NOTE: **pretend** might be also used as an **adjective]**

M: Right, fake hair.

E: So, the hair is not authentic.

M: Ha, very good. Alright, so, a wig.

E: Alright, we've got some great language here. And why don't we listen to it one more time, slow down a little bit in the dialogue.

DIALOGUE, SECOND TIME (slow)

M: Alright, now, it's time for us to take a look at more phrases today in "**fluency builder**".

Voice: Fluency builder.

E: Alright, so, we've got some phrases here that you can use together with a number of different words, right?

M: Exactly.

E: So, the first one: we heard that Data said "we're **under attack**".

M: We're under attack.

E: Under attack.

M: Alright, so, if we're under attack, it means that we are being…

E: Attacked.

M: Attacked.

E: Someone is shooting guns at you or trying to hurt you or something like that.

M: Okay, so, we are under attack.

E: Uhu.

M: Very popular phrase that you would hear in war movies or something.

E: Definitely. Now, you can change this by changing the last word: **we are under fire**.

M: Under fire, which m… basically means the same thing.

E: Yeah, excepting… when you are under fire, um, there're guns involved.

M: Okay, so, they're shooting at you.

E: Yep.

M: Alright, we're under attack; we're under fire.

E: Uhu.

M: Alright, moving on to our second phrase: we've **sustained heavy damage**.

E: Sustain heavy damage. So, when you sustain something, you receive it or you **undergo** this thing.

M: So, usually, it's related to injury or to receiving some type of…

E: Of negative thing.

M: Okay, so, why don't we listen to some examples of how we could use sustain in context.

Voice: Example one.

A: John had a car accident and sustained a fatal injury.

Voice: Example two.

B: The boxer sustained a severe neck injury in the Championship fight.

Voice: Example three.

C: Luckily the warship didn't sustain any serious damage.

E: Alright, so, you see we… we typically sustain something like an injury, um… uh, or damage, that is negative.

M: Very good.

E: Uhu.

M: And the last phrase for today: **what is the nature of** this attack?

E: What is the nature of.

M: What is the nature of.

E: Okay, so, basically he's just asking "why are you doing this?"

M: Right, why… what is the reason?

E: Yeah.

M: What is the purpose?

E: Uhu.

M: So, again, we have some more examples of how you could use **what is the nature of** in different situations.

Voice: Example one.

A: What is the nature of your visit to the United States?

Voice: Example two.

B: What is the nature of the threat against our country?

Voice: Example three.

C: The nature of my visit is personal.

E: Okay, so, a great phrase you can use, um, not only when you're talking sci-fi, but in everyday life.

M: Exactly. So, why don't we listen now to the dialogue for the last time and then we'll come back and talk a little bit more.

DIALOGUE, THIRD TIME

E: Oh, Marco, I already admitted that I'm not much of a sci-fi fan. I don't really know anything about Star Trek or Star Wars.

M: Hehe. Well, it is a very popular show. I think it started around the Sixties of Seventies; the…

E: Yep.

M: The first version of Star Trek. And, well, many, many people follow it now. They **dress up**; they know the secret language that is used on the show; they know the spaceships. It's a big culture.

E: That's true. And, speaking of culture, I think we've got, um, a Star Trek movie coming out pretty soon. So, some of this language can help you guys understand it a little bit better.

M: Very good. Yeah, so, if you have any other questions or comments related to… not only to science fiction, but anything in general, please come to the website **englishpod.com** and leave your questions or comments.

E: Well, thanks for downloading you guys and until next time… Good bye!

M: Bye!