

Dialogue 1-6: A Telephone Call

- JOHN:** Hi, Alice, ^{nêe} it's John. How are you?
- ALICE:** Oh, hi, John! I was just thinking about ^{núek thúeng} you.
- JOHN:** That's nice. ^{dee jang loei} I ^{yaak róa waa} was wondering if ^{yaak pai} you'd like to go to a movie ^{doon nâang khuen nêe} tonight. ^{q = mái}
- ALICE:** ^{nâe non} Sure, I'd love to! ^{rueng a rai} What's playing?
- JOHN:** ^{kid} I was thinking about ^{waa mài} that new comedy *Lights Out*. ^{kid waa yang ngai?} What do you think?
- ALICE:** ^{nâa sôn jai} Sounds great!
- JOHN:** ^{ja pup} OK, I'll pick you up ^{pramaan} around 7:30. The movie starts at ^{nang roem wae laa} 8:00.
- ALICE:** ^{laew jur gun} See you then. Bye!

for = sǒm rùb
will = jà

LUKE: Hello? Hi, Stephanie, ^{thêc... pen yàang rai bâng} how are things at the office?

STEPHANIE: Hi, Luke! How are you? Can you please stop and pick up ^{khò dǎo} extra paper for the ^{krueng print} computer printer?

LUKE: What did you say? ^{khun phòod waa a rai nà?} Can you repeat that, please? Did you say to pick up ink for the printer? Sorry, the phone is ^{phòod eek kráng} cutting out. ^{khò thót sǎn yàan th rǎ sùb mǎi dee}

STEPHANIE: Can you ^{dǎi yin} hear me now? No, I ^{tóng kaan} need more computer paper. ^{ra d d} Listen, I'll text you exactly ^{tóng kaan a rai} what I need. Thanks, Luke. ★★★★★★★★

LUKE: Thanks, Stephanie. Sorry, my phone has really bad reception here.

LANGUAGE NOTES

- There are a few ways to express a lack of understanding and to request additional information. The most common ones are stated, but you can also say "Excuse me" or simply "I can't hear you." In a more formal situation, try saying "I'm sorry?" or "I beg your pardon?" (with a rising intonation).
- When asking someone to clarify information try saying *Can you please repeat that?* / *Can you spell that for me?* / *Can you please write down the address for me?*
- Cutting out** describes a difficulty in understanding a caller due to poor cellphone reception. If you are having trouble understanding the caller, you can also say *The line is breaking up* / *I am losing you*. If the phone call is disconnected because of poor reception, you can say *The call dropped*.
- Talk to you later** is the equivalent in a phone conversation of "See you later" in a regular, face-to-face conversation.
- Reception** here means the availability of cellular service; the possibility to receive and give calls on a cellphone. Cellphone reception can be limited in remote areas, inside large buildings or underground (in the subway, for instance).

Dialogue 1-8: Coincidences

- MEG: Well, hello there, Julia! Long time no see!
- JULIA: Meg! Hi! What a coincidence! I haven't seen you in ages! What are you doing here?, ma tham a rai thee nêe
- MEG: I just got a new job in the city, so I'm shopping for some clothes. Hey, what do you think of this shirt?
- JULIA: Hmm... well, you know how much I love blue. See? I've got the same shirt!
- MEG: * You always did have good taste! What a small world.