

## dialogue 3

The walls are really thin  
Las paredes son muy delgadas

George tiene una vecina algo ruidosa y decide ir a golpearle a su puerta. Escucha con atención y trata de repetir luego el diálogo.

George:	Hi. I'm your new neighbor, George Rivera. I live next door.	Hola. Soy tu nuevo vecino, George Rivera. Vivo al lado.
Stephanie:	Oh, hi. I'm Stephanie Lee.	Oh, hola. Soy Stephanie Lee.
George:	So, you just moved in? Do you need anything?	¿Así que recién te mudaste? ¿Necesitas algo?
Stephanie:	Not right now. But thanks.	Por el momento, no. Pero gracias.
George:	Well, let me know if you do. Um, by the way, would you mind turning your stereo down? The walls are really thin, so the sound goes right through to my apartment.	Bueno, házmelo saber si necesitas algo. Eh, a propósito, ¿te molestaría bajar el volumen de tu estéreo? Las paredes son muy delgadas y el sonido pasa directamente a mi departamento.
Stephanie:	Oh, I'm sorry!! I didn't realize that. I'll make sure to keep the volume down. Oh, by the way, is there a good Italian restaurant in the neighborhood?	Oh, ¡jlo siento!! No me di cuenta de eso. Me aseguraré de mantener el volumen bajo. Oh, a propósito, ¿hay algún buen restaurante italiano en el barrio?
George:	Yeah. There's a great one a couple of blocks from here. Try their lasagna. It's delicious!!	Sí. Hay uno fantástico a un par de cuadras de aquí. Prueba su lasaña. ¡¡Es deliciosa!!



## reading

Shorter phone calls  
Llamadas más cortas

Lee atentamente este entretenido artículo acerca de cómo puedes reducir tus llamadas telefónicas. Completa luego el ejercicio de lecto-comprensión

Your phone rings. It's a friend who wants to tell you about his or her latest health problem. You hate to be rude and cut your friend off, but what can you do? Time management consultant Stephanie Winston, author of *Stephanie Winston's Best Organizing Tips*, offers you these seven tips:

1. *Don't ask questions like "What's new?"*

This sort of questions give the impression that you have time to chat. After "hello", get right to the heart of the matter.

2. *Time your calls intelligently*

If you make a call right before lunch or dinner, or at the end of the workday, people chat less.

3. *Set a time limit*

Start with, "Hi, I've only got a few minutes, but I wanted to talk to you about...", or "Gee, I'd love to talk more, but I only have a couple of minutes before I have to run errands."

4. *Jump on a pause*

Even the most talkative caller has to pause now and then. Quickly say, "It has been great talking with you." Then end the conversation as soon as possible.

5. *Forget niceties*

Some people just don't take a hint. Interrupt your caller and say, "I'd like to talk to you longer, but I'm pressed for time. Good-bye." Then hang up. It might seem rude but don't ask for permission to end the conversation because you will be lost.

6. *Find a "partner in crime"*

If nothing else works, ask someone in your home or at work to help you. For example, one woman signals her husband, who yells, "Jane, I think the roast is burning!", or "Paul, your boss is asking for you!". At home, you can also try ringing the bell if you have a bell button near you.

7. *Avoid the phone completely*

Use an answering machine to screen calls. If you have an important message for a chatterbox, leave the message when he or she isn't in.

**exercises**

**Activity 39:** Despues de leer el artículo lee con atención estas oraciones. Selecciona  las mejores opciones para reducir tus llamadas telefónicas. Verifica luego las respuestas alternativas ...



- 1** I'm glad you feel better. What can I do for you?
- 2** I'm in a hurry and I have to go now. Good-bye.
- 3** Hi. How are things?
- 4** I need to get off the phone now. There's someone at the door.
- 5** So, what else is new?
- 6** No, I'm not busy right now.
- 7** I'm sorry to call you at dinnertime, but I have just one question.
- 8** I only have three minutes before I have to leave home.

**exercises**

**Activity 40:** Este es un ejercicio de LECTO-COMPRENSION sobre el artículo anterior. Debes COMBINAR el comienzo de las oraciones (primera columna) con el FINAL (segunda columna). SELECCIONA del menú en rojo el NUMERO del final con el cual combina cada una de ellas. Verifica luego las respuestas correctas ...



**A** Some people don't take a hint, so ...

**B** A good excuse is that you only have two minutes ...

**C** Questions like "What's new?" ...

**D** Using an answering machine ...

**E** Right before lunch or dinner ...

**1** people chat less.

**2** you can avoid phone calls.

**3** before you have to run errands.

**4** you have to interrupt them with an excuse.

**5** give the impression that you have time to chat.