

Phone language

VOCABULARY phone language

① 4.1 Listen and match what you hear to the sentences.

- A He's dialling a number.
- B She's texting (messaging) a friend.
- C He's just hung up.
- D She's choosing a new ringtone.
- E He's calling back.
- F She's left a message on his voicemail.
- G The line's engaged (busy).
- H She's swiping through photos.
- I His phone went off in the middle of a meeting.
- J She needs to talk to a helpline, but they've put her on hold.
- K He was cut off in the middle of a conversation.

① 4.2 Listen and check. Practise saying the sentences.

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Match the words from the list to definitions 1–12.

call back cut sb off dial engaged / busy go off
hang up leave a message put sb on hold ringtone
swipe text / message voicemail

- 1 to send sb a message using a mobile phone
text / message
- 2 to make a caller wait until the person they want to talk to is free

- 3 to phone sb again or phone sb who called you earlier

- 4 to start ringing

- 5 to record information for sb to listen to later

- 6 an electronic system that can store messages so that you can listen to them later

- 7 to stop or interrupt sb's phone conversation

- 8 to push the buttons on a phone to call a number

- 9 the sound your phone makes when sb is calling you

- 10 to move content across a screen using your finger

- 11 meaning that a phone is in use and can't be called

- 12 to end a phone conversation and put the phone down



Complete the sentences with the words from a.

- 1 I wanted to speak to my boss personally, so I didn't leave a message.
- 2 If I give you my phone, you can _____ through my holiday photos.
- 3 We turned off our phones at the start of the film to make sure they didn't _____.
- 4 We were _____ when the train I was on went into a tunnel.
- 5 I need to choose another _____ because I never hear the one I've got.
- 6 I couldn't talk to my bank because the phone was _____.
- 7 When you call big companies they often _____ you _____ for a long time.
- 8 John isn't answering his phone, so I'll have to _____ later.
- 9 Did you listen to your _____ last night? I left you a message.
- 10 I usually _____ when companies call me to try to sell me something.
- 11 I don't have to _____ my friends' numbers because they're all in my contacts.
- 12 Can you _____ your brother and tell him we're going to be late?