

# 81 Everyday language

The words and phrases below are all commonly found in everyday spoken language, and some of them are informal.

~ Where's Karl?  
~ We're **short of** milk, so he **went off to** get some. He'll be back **any minute**.

~ Can you **give us all a lift**?  
~ Sure. I can take **up to** four people, and you can **stick** your stuff in the boot.

~ I **bet** Elsa will be exhausted after yesterday. It's not **like her** to walk six miles.  
~ Well, **no doubt** she'll tell us what **made** her decide to do it. I **mean**, she didn't have to, did she?

~ What are you and Beata doing for her birthday?  
~ Well, it's **up to** her really, isn't it? I don't know **whether or not** she has any plans.

~ Dominic said he'd be here at 9. He's not going to **make it**, is he? And the concert was an **absolute disaster** last time without him.  
~ Don't worry. He'll **turn up** – he needs the money.

~ Do you **reckon** we'll still get tickets for the Mozart concert?  
~ Oh yeah, we're **bound to** – there's still three weeks to go.

~ I bet Kian **makes a mess of** organizing this festival. I don't know why I put him in charge.  
~ True, but **you never know**, he may surprise us.

## GLOSSARY

<b>short (of sth)</b>	not having enough of sth	<b>whether</b>	used to express a doubt or choice between two possibilities: <b>whether or not</b>
<b>go off (to do sth)</b>	leave a place, especially in order to do sth	<b>disaster inf</b>	a complete failure: <b>an absolute / a total disaster</b>
<b>(at) any minute (now)</b>	very soon	<b>turn up</b>	1 (of a person) arrive, especially in a way that is unexpected (as above) 2 be found, especially by chance, after being lost
<b>give sb a lift</b>	give sb a free ride in your car	<b>reckon inf</b>	think sth or have an opinion about sth
<b>up to sth</b>	as far as a particular number, level, etc.	<b>be bound to do/ be sth</b>	be certain or likely to happen, or do or be sth
<b>stick inf</b>	put sth in a place, especially quickly or carelessly	<b>to go</b>	remaining; still left
<b>I bet (that) ... inf</b>	used to say that you are almost certain sth is true or that sth will happen	<b>mess</b>	a situation that is full of problems, usually because of bad organization or mistakes that sb has made: <b>make a mess of sth</b>
<b>it's (not) like you/him/ her, etc.</b>	used to show what is usual or typical for sb	<b>you never know inf</b>	used to say that you can never be certain about what will happen in the future, especially when you are suggesting that sth good might happen
<b>no doubt</b>	used when you are saying that sth is probable		
<b>make sb/sth do sth</b>	cause sb/sth to do or be sth		
<b>I mean inf</b>	used to explain or correct what you have just said		
<b>be up to sb</b>	be sb's responsibility; be for sb to decide		

## SPOTLIGHT **make it**

**Make it** can mean:

- 1 succeed in reaching a place, especially when it is difficult (as above)
- 2 be present at a place: *I'm afraid I can't **make it** this evening.*
- 3 be successful in a career: *Liam will never **make it** as a pop star.*
- 4 survive after a serious accident or illness; deal successfully with a difficult experience: *The doctors think he'll **make it**.*



1 Form eight phrases by using a word or phrase from each box.

no	whether	give me	make	disaster	it tonight	to you	or not
a total	at any	short	it's up	of money	a lift	doubt	minute

.....

.....

2 Good news or bad news? Write G or B.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 She made a mess of the exam. ....           | 5 Martina's not short of money. ....                    |
| 2 Dad made it through the operation. ....     | 6 The plane will take up to five, and we're seven. .... |
| 3 The ceremony was an absolute disaster. .... | 7 Surprisingly, Daniel turned up on the right day. .... |
| 4 The accident was bound to happen. ....      | 8 Failing the test made her work harder. ....           |

3 Replace the underlined word(s) with a word or phrase that keeps the same meaning.

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1 You can just <u>put</u> those books in the study. ....   | ..... |
| 2 I'm <u>sure</u> Caitlin will want to stay with us. ....  | ..... |
| 3 Darren's very clever; I'm sure he'll <u>be successful</u> in business. ....                    | ..... |
| 4 We'll never win. There are only two minutes <u>remaining</u> before the final whistle. ....    | ..... |
| 5 Sophy's not feeling at all well, so she's <u>very likely</u> to be at home tonight. ....       | ..... |
| 6 I <u>think</u> the café will be shut by the time we get there. Let's go tomorrow instead. .... | ..... |
| 7 Reuben just <u>left</u> , heading for the woods to try and find the dog. ....                  | ..... |
| 8 The train goes in five minutes. Lena's not going to <u>get here in time</u> . ....             | ..... |

4 Rewrite the sentences on the left, starting with the words given. Keep the same meaning.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Could I go in your car?                           | Could you give .....                   |
| 2 Felix will be here very soon.                     | Felix will be here any .....           |
| 3 That's not typical of Vicky.                      | That's .....                           |
| 4 It's your decision.                               | It's .....                             |
| 5 He's not expected to come.                        | I don't think he .....                 |
| 6 He created a lot of problems with the task.       | He made .....                          |
| 7 The traffic might be heavy; you can't be certain. | The traffic might be heavy – you ..... |
| 8 Has anyone found the documents yet?               | Have the documents .....               |
| 9 I haven't got much money left.                    | I'm a bit .....                        |
| 10 Why did she change her mind about the car?       | What .....                             |

5 Complete the dialogues in a suitable way.

- 1 A What are the chances that Alana will ..... it as a film actor?  
 B I ..... that'll be a struggle. I ....., with so little experience and just a couple of parts in some TV adverts, the competition is ..... to be tough. Still, you never ..... – we might just see her in a Hollywood movie one day. Unless she becomes famous, though, no ..... she'll have many periods waiting for work.
- 2 A Robbie seems rather depressed at the moment, and that's not ..... him.  
 B I know. I think he's finding his course really difficult. To be honest, I don't know what ..... him think medicine was right for him. He's not very hardworking and he isn't very interested in people.  
 A Well, he's got another three years to ..... on the course. It's entirely up ..... him whether or ..... he finishes it or changes to something else.
- 3 A Where's Taki? He asked me to give him a ..... to the stadium, and it's 6.30 already.  
 B Well, he was here ten minutes ago, but he ..... off to try and get a sandwich. He'll be here ..... minute now – don't worry.
- 4 A Caro has lost the ring Ali bought her. It'll be a total ..... if she can't find it.  
 B I ..... she's ..... it somewhere safe and forgotten about it. It'll ..... up, I'm sure.

6 These verbs have different meanings, apart from those given in the glossary. What are they?

Use the  to help you.

reckon ..... stick ..... bet .....

