

# 3

## Lend a hand.

- Discuss favors, borrowing, and lending
- Leave messages with requests

### 1 SNAPSHOT

#### ANNOYING FAVORS PEOPLE ASK

Could you ...

1. babysit my kids on the weekend?
2. watch my stuff for a few minutes?
3. let me use your credit card?
4. drive me to the airport?
5. let me use your passcode to download a movie?
6. help me move to my new apartment?
7. come with me to my niece's school concert?
8. let me stay at your place for a couple of weeks?
9. donate to my favorite charity?
10. co-sign a bank loan for me?



Imagine that a close friend asked you each of these favors. Which would you agree to do?  
What are three other favors that you dislike being asked?

### 2 CONVERSATION Thanks a million.

#### ► A Listen and practice.

**Carlos:** Hey, Keiko. What's up?

**Keiko:** Hi, Carlos. I was wondering if you could help me. I'm moving to my new apartment this weekend, and my car is pretty small. Can I borrow your truck, please?

**Carlos:** Um, I need it on Saturday, but you can borrow it on Sunday.

**Keiko:** Thanks so much.

**Carlos:** Sure. So, have you packed already?

**Keiko:** Uh-huh. I mean, I'll have everything packed by Sunday. You know, I think some of my boxes are going to be kind of heavy. Would you mind helping me put them in your truck on Sunday?

**Carlos:** I guess not. I suppose you want my help taking them out of the truck, too?

**Keiko:** Oh, that'd be great. Thanks a million, Carlos!



#### ► B Listen to two more calls Keiko makes. What else does she need help with? Do her friends agree to help?

### 3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

#### Requests with modals, *if* clauses, and gerunds

Less formal	<b>Can I</b> borrow your truck, please?
	<b>Could</b> you lend me your truck, please?
	<b>Is it OK if</b> I use your credit card?
	<b>Do you mind if</b> I use your credit card?
	<b>Would it be all right if</b> I <b>used</b> your credit card?
	<b>Would you mind if</b> I <b>borrowed</b> your truck?
	<b>Would you mind</b> <b>helping</b> me on Sunday?
More formal	<b>I was wondering if</b> you <b>could</b> help me move.

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#### A Circle the correct answers. Then practice with a partner.

- A:** **Is it OK if / Would / Do you mind** I use your cell phone? Mine just died.

**B:** No problem, but can you keep it short? I'm expecting an important phone call.
- A:** Would you mind if I **stay / staying / stayed** at your place for the weekend?

**B:** Not at all. It'll be fun to have you stay with us.
- A:** I was wondering **I could / if I could / if I would** borrow your car tomorrow.

**B:** Sure, that's fine. Just be careful. I've only had it for a couple of months.
- A:** Could you **lend / lending / lent** me \$20?

**B:** I'm sorry. I don't have any money to spare right now.
- A:** Would you mind **help / helped / helping** me pack my stuff this weekend?

**B:** No, I don't mind. I'm not doing anything then.
- A:** **Would you mind / Can / Is it OK if** you feed my cats while I'm on vacation, please?

**B:** Sorry, I don't get along with cats.



#### B Rewrite these sentences to make them more formal requests. Then practice making your requests with a partner. Accept or decline each request.

- Come to my cousin's wedding with me.
- Can I borrow your notes to study for the test?
- Can you lend me your camera to take with me on my vacation?
- Drive me to the airport.
- Help me paint my apartment.
- I'd like to borrow your cell phone to call a friend in London.

1. *Would you mind coming to my cousin's wedding with me?*



## 4 PRONUNCIATION Unreleased consonants

- ▶ **A** Listen and practice. Notice that when /t/, /d/, /k/, /g/, /p/, and /b/ are followed by other consonant sounds, they are unreleased.

Could Craig **take** care of my **pet** skunk?  
Can you **ask** Bob to **help** me?

- ▶ **B** Circle the unreleased consonants in the conversations. Listen and check. Then practice the conversations with a partner.

- A:** I was wondering if I could borrow that book.  
**B:** Yes, but can you take it back to Doug tomorrow?
- A:** Would you mind giving Albert some help moving that big bed?  
**B:** Sorry, but my doctor said my back needs rest.



## 5 LISTENING I was wondering . . .

- ▶ **A** Listen to three telephone conversations. Write down what each caller requests. Does the other person agree to the request? Check (✓) Yes or No.

	Request	Yes	No
1. Jesse		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Liz		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Min-jun		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- B PAIR WORK** Use the chart to act out each conversation in your own words.

## 6 WRITING A message with requests

- A** Write a message to a classmate asking for several favors. Explain why you need help.

- B PAIR WORK** Exchange messages. Write a reply accepting or declining the requests.

The chat interface shows a conversation between Sara and Kim. Sara's message is: "Hi, Kim! Could I ask you a few small favors? I'm planning to spend this weekend at the beach. I was wondering if I could borrow your sleeping bag. Also, . . .". Kim's reply is: "Sorry, Sara, but I can't help you this time. First of all, I lent my sleeping bag to my brother, and he hasn't returned it yet. . . .".

## 7 INTERCHANGE 3 Beg and borrow

Find out how generous you are. Go to Interchange 3 on page 116.

## 8 WORD POWER Verb-noun collocations

**A** Which verb is not usually paired with each noun?  
Put a line through the verb. Then compare with a partner.

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. return / do / ask for / make         | a favor       |
| 2. owe / offer / do / accept            | an apology    |
| 3. receive / accept / turn down / offer | an invitation |
| 4. do / receive / give / accept         | a gift        |
| 5. do / return / make / receive         | a phone call  |
| 6. accept / make / decline / offer      | a request     |
| 7. receive / return / do / give         | a compliment  |



**B PAIR WORK** Add two questions to the list using the collocations in part A. Then take turns asking and answering the questions.

1. What are nice ways to return a favor? How do you usually return favors?
2. Have you ever invented an excuse to turn down an invitation? What excuse did you give?
3. When was the last time you declined a request? What was the request?
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## 9 PERSPECTIVES Can you tell her . . . ?

**A** Listen to the requests people make at the school where Mary Martin teaches. Complete each request with *ask* or *tell*.

1. If you see Mary, can you \_\_\_\_\_ her that she left her phone in my car?
2. If you see Mary, could you \_\_\_\_\_ her whether or not she is coming to the teachers' meeting?
3. If you see Ms. Martin, can you \_\_\_\_\_ her if she's graded our tests yet?
4. If you see Mary, please \_\_\_\_\_ her not to forget the students' reports.
5. If you see Mary, could you \_\_\_\_\_ her to find me in the cafeteria after her meeting?
6. If you see Ms. Martin, would you \_\_\_\_\_ her what time I can talk to her about my homework?

**B** Who do you think made each request?  
the school coordinator? another teacher?  
a student?





# 10 GRAMMAR FOCUS



## Indirect requests

### Statements

Mary, you left your phone in my car.



### Indirect requests introduced by *that*

Could you tell Mary **(that) she left her phone in my car?**

### Imperatives

Mary, don't forget the students' reports.



### Indirect requests using infinitives

Can you tell Mary **not to forget the students' reports?**

### Yes/No questions

Ms. Martin, have you graded our tests?



### Indirect requests introduced by *if* or *whether*

Can you ask her **if she's graded our tests yet?**

Mary, are you coming to the meeting?



Could you ask her **whether or not she is coming to the meeting?**

### Wh-questions

Mary, where are you having lunch?



### Indirect requests introduced by a question word

Can you ask Mary **where she's having lunch?**

Ms. Martin, what time can I talk to you about my homework?



Would you ask her **what time I can talk to her about my homework?**

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Read the things people want to say to Mary. Rewrite the sentences as indirect requests. Then compare with a partner.

1. Mary, did you get my message about your phone?
2. Mary, will you give me a ride to school tomorrow?
3. Ms. Martin, when is our assignment due?
4. Mary, why didn't you meet us at the cafeteria for lunch?
5. Ms. Martin, I won't be in class tomorrow night.
6. Mary, are you going to the school party on Saturday?
7. Mary, please return my call when you get your phone back.
8. Mary, have you received my wedding invitation?

1. Could you ask Mary if she got my message about her phone?

# 11 SPEAKING No problem.

A Write five requests for your partner to pass on to classmates.

Would you ask Keith if he can turn off his phone in class?

B **CLASS ACTIVITY** Ask your partner to pass on your requests. Go around the class and make your partner's requests. Then tell your partner how people responded.

A: Would you ask Keith if he can turn off his phone in class?

B: No problem. . . . Keith, could you turn off your cell phone in class?

C: I'm sorry, but I can't! I'm expecting an important phone call.

B: Lee, Keith says he's expecting an important phone call.



A Scan the article. What are the three problems?

HOME
NEWS
ARTICLES
COMMUNITY

## CAN YOU TELL IT LIKE IT IS?

There are some things that are almost impossible to say to our close friends – especially if we want them to be our friends for life. Are you wondering what problems others have with bringing up difficult subjects? Read on.

**1. “I can’t stand your other friends.”**  
My best friend sometimes hangs out with some people that I really don’t like. I think they have a bad influence on her, and she only spends time with them because they are “cool.” Could you tell me if I should bring the matter up with her, or if it would be better for me to keep quiet? I don’t want to lose her as a friend. – Carly

**2. “I won’t help you cheat.”**  
My closest friend has lost interest in school and studying. He says he’s bored with the whole thing, so he often asks me whether I’ll do him a favor and let him copy my homework. So far I’ve said no, but he keeps asking me. I told him that I think we’ll get in trouble, but he just laughed and told me not to worry. I don’t want to put my grades at risk, but I’m afraid to confront my friend about this, so I just keep avoiding the topic. How can I get him to stop asking? I was wondering if you could give me some tips for handling my problem. – Matt

**3. “No, I CAN’T do that for you!”**  
My best friend and I get along really well, but she is constantly asking me to do things for her. “Could you help me pick out some new clothes? Would you mind if I borrowed your car? Can you look after my apartment while I’m away?” And these are just a few examples. I’ve said yes so many times that now I’m afraid I’ll hurt her feelings if I say no. Any ideas? – Dana



B Read the article. Then answer the questions.

1. Why is Carly concerned about her friend? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is Matt most worried about? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is Dana afraid to say no to her friend? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who is this advice best for?
  - a. Say that you know your friend can handle the work himself. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Agree to some requests, but only if your friend does something in return. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Tell your friend there are more important things than being popular. \_\_\_\_\_

C What do the underlined words in the article refer to? Write the correct word(s).

1. them \_\_\_\_\_
2. the matter \_\_\_\_\_
3. the whole thing \_\_\_\_\_
4. this \_\_\_\_\_
5. these \_\_\_\_\_

D **PAIR WORK** Have you ever had similar problems with friends? How were the problems resolved? What advice would you give to Carly, Matt, and Dana?