British English: Listening Comprehension 13

A Clean Sweep

(5:42)

This is the first video at the pre-intermediate level. You will see that the speech is beginning to be more natural and that there are some longer stretches of dialogue. There is no accompanying lesson with this video, and there is only one new vocabulary word: *rota*, which is the British word for "a rotating schedule".

Watch the video and summarize the events.

1) Summarize in a few sentences what happens in the video.

2) Below is a transcript of the video. Listen again—just the audio below—and fill in the blanks. Some blanks should be filled with multiple words.

Helen (voice over): When you live in a house with three other people, there's excitement, there's conversation, and there's housework.
Helen: Good morning.
Jane: Morning.
David: Morning.
Jane: Did you sleep well?
Helen: Okay. ... Where's the milk? ... There isn't any milk.
David: It's on the table.
Helen: _____ doing on the table?
David: We're using it?
Jane: Sorry, would you like me to put it away?
Helen: No, leave it. ... Is there any bread left? Or did somebody finish it?

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Matt: Oh, hi.
Jane: There's some in the _____.
Helen: There isn't very much. ... And that's mine.
Matt: What?
Helen: You know, H for Helen, not M for Matt. ... And there aren't any clean ones. ... I can't believe it! How many cups are in the sink! Does anyone do the _____ in this house?
Jane: I do.
David: Me too.
Matt: You never do the washing up. You always leave it to someone else.
David: At least I do some cooking.
Matt: Well, I clear up the kitchen.
David: How often?
Matt: I did it last month.
Helen: Right. _____.

[Helen leaves and returns with a paper.]

Helen: OK, everybody. As from today, we're going to keep this place clean and tidy.
Jane: What's the sheet of paper for?
David: I can guess.
Helen: It's a rota for all the jobs around the house. ... So, this week, Jane, you're cleaning the kitchen and cooking at the weekend. David is doing the washing up and on Friday he's doing the shopping. Matt's cleaning the bathroom and cooking Monday _____. And I'm cleaning the living room and cooking on Thursday and Friday. Has everybody got that?
Jane: Yes.
David: Yep.
Helen: Good.

[Scene changes to Jane returning from town.]

Jane: Hi!
Helen: Hi!
Jane: What are you doing?
Helen: What does it _____I'm doing?
Jane: Why have you got that shopping?
Helen: Er, let's see, because it's my day for shopping.
Jane: But I did the shopping today. ... You're cooking tonight.
Helen: No, it's Friday. You're cooking tonight.
Jane: But that was last Friday. You did the shopping and I cooked, _____?
Helen: Let's go in and look at the rota.

[Scene changes to the boys in the living room.]

David: It's my day for the living room.
Matt: No, it isn't. You're in the bathroom today.
David: I cleaned the bathroom yesterday.
Matt: No, you didn't. You were watching television when I came home.
David: I did it after you went to bed.
Matt: _____.
David: No, you let go of it.
Jane: What's going on?
David: I came in to do the living room and he was cleaning the carpet.
Matt: It's my turn.
David: No, it isn't.
Matt: Yes, it is.
Helen: Boys.
Matt: Why are you both _____ shopping?
Helen: Jane got the wrong day.

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Jane: I didn't get the wrong day. You did.
David: And you did.
Matt: No, I didn't. I looked on the rota. Tuesday was the bathroom.
Jane: Hang on a minute. That's not right. I'm doing the bathroom tomorrow.
David: Look, I'm doing the bathroom, you're doing the _____.
Matt: No, no, no, no, no, no. That's me. I'm positive.
David: Oh, yeah?
Matt: Yeah. And who's going to clear that up?
Girls: Matt. Matt.
Helen (voice over): OK, so the rota wasn't a great success. The house is looking good at the moment.

LIVEWORKSHEETS