

5C How to ... give and respond to personal news

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We use these phrases to give good and bad news, and respond to other people's good and bad news.

give good news

Guess what!

I've got some (good/amazing) news.

I've got some good news to tell you.

I'm really pleased to tell you ...

give bad news

Bad news, I'm afraid.

Unfortunately, ...

There's something I need to tell you.

give good or bad news

You won't believe this (but) ...

I've got something to tell you.

You know ... ? Well, ...

respond to good news

Wow, that's (amazing/fantastic/awesome)!

That's (wonderful/great) news!

I'm so pleased for you.

I can't believe it. That's great!

Well done!

Congratulations!

That is good news.

respond to bad news

That's (terrible/awful).

I'm really sorry.

What a shame.

I'm sorry to hear that.

PRACTICE

1 Complete the conversations with the correct words.

1 A: 'G..... what! I'm moving house tomorrow.

B: Really? Wow, that's ²w..... I'm so ³pl..... for you.

2 A: Bad news, I'm ⁴a.....

B: What's the matter?

A: I lost my wallet with more than €200 in cash.

B: Oh no! That's ⁵t.....

3 A: There's something I ⁶n..... to tell you.

B: What's that?

A: I'm afraid I crashed the car.

B: Oh that's ⁷a..... Are you OK?

4 A: I've got some amazing ⁸n.....

B: What is it?

A: I'm going to have a baby!

B: ⁹C.....! I can't ¹⁰b..... it! I'm ¹¹s..... pleased for you!

2 Put the words in brackets in the correct order to complete the conversations.

1 A: we're getting married. (this / believe / but / you / won't)

B: Wow. Congratulations!! (good / that / news / is)

2 A: I've (something / tell / you / got / to)

B: What is it?

A: my exams. (failed / unfortunately / I)

B: Oh, I'm really sorry. (a / shame / what)

3 A: I'm that you got the job. (to / really / tell / pleased / you)

B:! (believe / I / it / can't)

4 A: You passed. Congratulations! Well done!

B:! I'm so excited! (amazing / wow / that's)

3 Complete the conversations with the phrases (a-h).

a I've got some good news

b I'm really pleased to tell

c You know

d I'm sorry to hear that.

e Well done

f I'm afraid

g Congratulations to them both

h That's wonderful news

1

¹..... you that your application has been successful.

²..... Thank you so much.

2

³..... to tell you. I finally passed my driving test. Third time lucky!

That's wonderful news. ⁴.....!

3

Bad news, ⁵..... I lost my job this morning.

Oh no. ⁶.....

4

⁷..... Gian Carlo?

Yes.

Well, he and his partner got engaged last week.

Oh, that's awesome! ⁸.....