
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

How do you say sorry?



Listen to the full episode here: <https://bit.ly/4lCW0Tu>

1. Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?

2. Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.

- What do the presenters say the episode is about?
- What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?

3. Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

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4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. Who did Ghanaian journalist, Afia Pokua, apologise to?
 - a) King Charles III of the United Kingdom
 - b) King Tutu II of the Ashanti tribe
 - c) King Felipe of Spain
2. Which idiom is used to describe something very unusual?
 - a) it's not every day that
 - b) it's not every week that
 - c) it's not every year that
3. Which adjective means 'slightly rude but in a funny, playful way'?
 - a) cheery
 - b) cheesy
 - c) cheeky
4. What is the name of the traditional Russian day for apologising to friends and family?
 - a) Forgiveness Friday
 - b) Forgiveness Saturday
 - c) Forgiveness Sunday
5. What does 'expressive' mean?
 - a) costing a lot of money
 - b) showing what someone thinks or feels
 - c) covering a large area
6. "The death of a parent is one of life's greatest ____"
 - a) sorrows
 - b) swallows
 - c) sparrows

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6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

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7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

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Answers

3.

- a. it's not every day (that) – (idiom) used to say that something is unusual or rare
- b. expressive – showing what you think or feel
- c. cheeky – slightly rude or disrespectful in a funny, playful way
- d. be upfront about (something) – act or speak openly so people know your feelings or intentions (about something)
- e. sorrow – source of sadness or regret
- f. honorific – showing respect and honour to someone

5. 1b, 2a, 3c, 4c, 5b, 6a

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Teacher's notes

This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet, and adapt it as necessary.

Extension activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.