

DVD 2. LEARN REAL ENGLISH

VOLUME 3. Lesson 15-21

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15. ASSISTED LIVING



Assisted Living Conversation

Kristin: I just got off the phone with my mom.

Joe: Oh, how's she doin'?

stressed out: very worried

Kristin: Oh, she's a little bit **stressed out**. We, um, we just had a long conversation about my grandmother.

Joe: Oh, how's your grandmother doin'?

so-so: not good and not bad

Kristin: Eh, **so-so**. My...

Joe: Yeah?

have their hands full: very busy

Kristin: ...mom and my uncle have their hands, really **have their hands full** right now.

Joe: Yeah.

every once in a while: sometimes

erratically: unpredictably

Kristin: Yeah, y'know, they s-, a while back they started to notice things **every once in a while** with my grandmother. For example her starting to drive more **erratically**. And they got concerned about that. And went to her doctor and explained everything to her doctor. And the doctor agreed, "Yeah, she shouldn't be driving." So the next time my grandmother went in my uncle and mom both went and her d-, my grandmother's doctor confronted her and said, "Y'know, I just think it's time to give up the keys and not drive anymore."

Joe: Wow, I guess that was...

bound to happen: very likely to happen

sooner or later: at some time in the future

quite a few: many

passed away: died

kind of: sort of

gone downhill: to have become much worse

in general: overall

Kristin: And understand-, understandably my grandmother was not happy but she did it.

Joe: Yeah, I mean, y'know, when you get to that age I guess that's **bound to happen sooner or later**.

Kristin: Yeah, but now, um, here lately there have been **quite a few** more things concerning my mom and uncle. So, y'know, ever since my grandfather **passed away** a few years ago, uh, my grandmother's just **kind of gone downhill** since. They'd been living in Florida and my mom and uncle decided to move my grandmother up just to be closer to them. There's no other family in Florida. She had friends there but no family. And I think it helped her a bit but, um... she's just, **in general**... I think,



Assisted Living Mini-Story Lesson

Hello and welcome to the mini-story lesson for the conversation “Assisted Living.”

Okay, let’s get started with the story now.

* * * * *

Jackie has her hands full. She works as a lawyer for twelve hours every day. She needs a vacation because she is really stressed out.

Jackie’s cousin Mary lives in Thailand. She told Jackie to visit her in Thailand.

“I don’t want to put you out,” said Jackie.

“I want you to visit,” said Mary.

So Jackie flew to Thailand.

Jackie really loved Thailand. Mary had told her that she would really like it so she knew it was bound to happen.

One day Jackie was at a café and she met a bunch of dolphins. The dolphins were playing music in the café. They needed a new singer so they asked Jackie to join the band. Jackie was so happy. She really enjoyed singing in the band so she decided to stay in Thailand.

Every once in a while Jackie thinks about being a lawyer, but she never wants to do it again.

* * * * *

Okay, so that brings us to the end of our story. Now, as always, I will read the story again and I will ask questions as I read it this time. You can answer the questions out loud after I ask them if you wish and if you need a little more time, you can always press pause on your iPod or your computer or whatever you’re playing the lesson on. And then you can press play again when you feel like you’ve had enough time to answer the question. And, of course, if you just want to listen, that’s fine as well. You don’t need to answer the questions out loud.

Okay, let’s get started.

* * * * *

Jackie has her hands full.



Assisted Living Mini-Story Lesson

Does Jackie have her hands full?

Yes, she does. Jackie has her hands full.

Is Jackie very busy?

Yes, yes, she is. Jackie has her hands full, which means that Jackie is very busy. When you have your hands full it means you're very busy.

Who has her hands full?

Jackie, Jackie has her hands full.

Does Jackie or Mary have her hands full?

Jackie does. Jackie has her hands full.

Is Jackie really busy?

Yes, she is. Jackie has her hands full, which is the same thing as saying, Jackie is really busy.

She works as a lawyer for twelve hours every day.

Does she work as a lawyer for twelve hours every day?

Yes, she does. She works as a lawyer for twelve hours every day.

What does she do?

Well, she works as a lawyer. She is a lawyer.

Does she go to school or work as a lawyer?

Work as a lawyer, she works as a lawyer.

Who works as a lawyer?

Jackie, Jackie works as a lawyer.



Assisted Living POV Lesson

Hi everyone. Welcome to the point of view stories for "Assisted Living". I hope that you're in a great mood and that you're excited to get started. Today we're going to hear the same story from the "Assisted Living" mini-story told in four different points of view. So we'll hear four different versions of this story. Okay, here we go.

* * * * *

Jackie has her hands full. She works as a lawyer for twelve hours every day. She needs a vacation because she's really stressed out.

Jackie's cousin Mary lives in Thailand. She tells Jackie to visit her in Thailand.

"I don't want to put you out," Jackie says.

"I want you to visit," Mary says.

So Jackie flies to Thailand.

Jackie really loves Thailand. Mary told her that she would really like it so she knows it was bound to happen.

One day Jackie is at a café and she meets a bunch of dolphins. The dolphins are playing music at the café. They need a new singer so they ask Jackie to join the band. Jackie is so happy. She really enjoys singing in the band so she decides to stay in Thailand.

Every once in a while Jackie thinks about being a lawyer, but she never wants to do it again.

* * * * *

Okay, so as you can see we just heard the story told as if it is happening right now or, as we say, happening in the present. Now let's tell the story as if it's happened, say five years ago. Okay, so here we go.

* * * * *

Five years ago, Jackie had her hands full. She worked as a lawyer for twelve hours every day. She needed a vacation because she was really stressed out.

Jackie's cousin Mary lived in Thailand. She told Jackie to visit her in Thailand.

"I don't want to put you out," said Jackie.



Assisted Living Vocabulary Lesson

Hello and welcome to the vocabulary lesson for the conversation “Assisted Living.” Now in this conversation I’m speaking with Joe about my grandmother. My grandmother is 88 years old. Actually, in about three months she will be 89 years old. And I’m just talking about problems that she’s starting to have from getting older.

Okay, let’s begin with the conversation.

* * * * *

I start off the conversation by saying, “I just got off the phone with my mom.”

Now when I say just... I’m talking about a short time before. So a short time before I got off the phone... phone being short for telephone. So a short time before I got off the telephone with my mom.

And Joe says, “Oh...”

And oh is just a filler word. It’s not really needed in this sentence.

And Joe goes on to say, “how’s she doin’?”

How’s. This is short for how is. And doin’ is short for doing. Now you won’t really see doin’ especially, and probably not how’s, in written English. But you will definitely hear them in conversational English.

And then I say, “Oh, she’s a little bit stressed out.”

Stressed out. This means very worried. Stressed out. For example: I used to get stressed out before taking a science test. Stressed out.

And I go on to say, “We, um...”

And um is just a filler word. It’s not really needed.

And then I say, “we just had a long conversation about my grandmother.” And then Joe says, “Oh, how’s your grandmother doin’?” And I say, “Eh...”

And eh, is just... It’s not really needed here either. It’s just filler.

And then I say, “so-so.”

Now so-so... This means not good and not bad. So-so. An example of so-so would be: I asked Joe what he