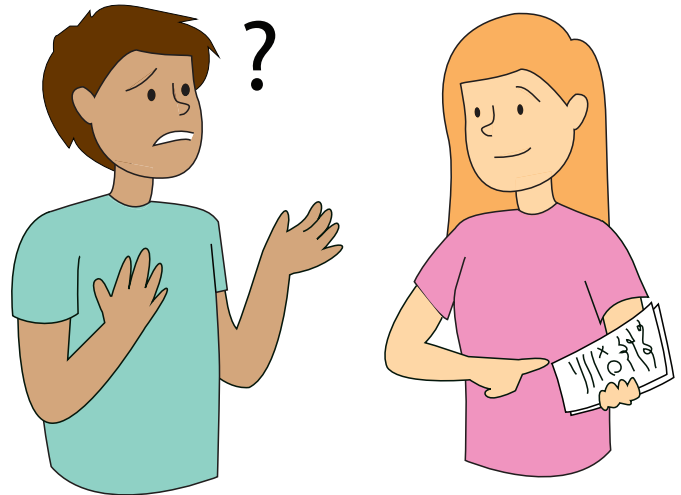


Expressing Confusion

Warm-Up

I'M SO CONFUSED!

Work with a group to make a big list of things that often cause confusion to newcomers (e.g., roundabouts).



Asking Someone to Repeat Something

Read the dialogue, and practice with a partner.

A: How do I pay for my parking?

B: Pay at the machine in the lobby before you exit. It's on level L.

A: I'm sorry. Could you say that again?

B: The ticket machine is in the lobby. Level L. Pay there.

A: I apologize. English is not my first language. Could you repeat that slowly?

B: (*slowly*) Pay at the machine. Level L. Show your receipt at the exit. You have 15 minutes to exit after you pay.

Using Common English Phrases

Listen to your teacher read these common English phrases. Then recite them together as a class.

- Could you repeat that?
- Could you say that again?
- I'm sorry. I don't understand.
- Would you mind repeating that?
- English is not my first language.
- I didn't catch that. (I didn't hear what you said.)
- I don't get it. (I don't understand.)
- Please excuse my English.
- Sorry for the confusion.
- I see. (I understand.)

Asking for Clarification

Complete the dialogue, and practice with a partner.

- A: Can you tell me where to find the spaghetti sauce?**
- B: It's three rows down. Head all the way to the end. The sauces are next to the dried pasta.
- A: I'm _____ . I didn't _____ that.**
- B: Aisle 3. (*points*) At the very end of the row. Beside the pasta.
- A: Thank you. Aisle 3. Beside the...pesto?**
- B: Pasta.
- A: Oh, pasta! Sorry, English is not my _____ language.**
- B: No problem. That's what I'm here for.

Thinking about the Situation

When might you hear someone say this?
Write down one possible situation or setting.

1. Can you please repeat the last four digits?
taking down a telephone number

2. I'm sorry, she didn't understand your instructions.

3. I don't get it. What is this part for?

Apologizing for the Confusion

Fill in the blanks with a word that makes sense.
Practice the new dialogues with a partner.

1. A: I'm _____. I thought you said the washrooms were downstairs.
B: No, I said upstairs.
2. A: Nice to meet you, Shaun.
B: It's John, with a J.
A: Oh, pardon me. Hi _____ .
3. A: Did you sign the form?
B: No. I don't get it. Can you _____ this part to me?
4. A: Didn't you read the sign?
B: Sorry, I don't _____ the sign.
A: You can take pictures before or after the show.
B: Oh, I see. No photography *during* the show.
Sorry for the confusion.

Using -ed/-ing Adjectives

In English, some adjectives have -ed/-ing endings. These are feeling adjectives: *interested/interesting, bored/boring, confused/confusing, excited/exciting*

Use the **-ing** ending when a noun is the reason or cause of the feeling adjective.

- This map is confusing.
(*The map is the reason for my feeling of confusion.*)

Use the **-ed** ending to show the result or effect.

- I am confused.
(*This is how I am feeling because I can't read the map.*)

Note that the noun (cause) is *sometimes* a person.

- The teacher is confusing. The students are confused.
(*The teacher didn't explain the grammar properly = **cause**. The students feel confused = **effect**.*)

Work as a class. Practice making sentences with the following feeling adjectives: *confused/confusing, interested/interesting, excited/exciting, bored/boring*.

Practicing Word Forms

Look at the following sentences. Write down the word form (*noun, verb, or adjective*) of the word in bold.

#	Sentence	Word Form
1	I am confused .	<i>adjective</i>
2	She is confused .	
3	Don't confuse the child.	
4	This is confusing .	
5	Sorry for the confusion .	

Matching

Match up sentences that have the same meaning.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ 1. I get it. | a) I apologize for my poor English. |
| _____ 2. I'm confused. | b) I understand. |
| _____ 3. Sorry for the mix up. | c) I did not understand a word. |
| _____ 4. Sorry about my English. | d) I apologize for the confusion. |
| _____ 5. I didn't catch any of it. | e) I don't get it. |