

FIRST YEAR 🔌



Episode 12: Home for the Holidays



Preview

In Episode 11, Kate met her boyfriend's mom. It was a bit awkward because Jason's parents just split up. In Episode 12, Kate goes home to her own house for the holidays. She chats with her mom about the visit to Jason's small town. She also makes a confession about her grades.

Pre-reading Vocabulary List **N**

Word	Definition	Notes / Translation
chatted	talked informally	
the boonies	a remote area that is not close to services or a city	
hustle and bustle	the busyness of people going from place to place	
work like a dog	work very hard	
to flunk	to fail (academics)	
to ditch	to give up suddenly	
to hang out with	to spend time with people casually (no meeting purpose)	
slipped	fell downwards suddenly	
bonus	a sum of money that is given as a reward for hard work Many companies give out an annual Christmas bonus.	
to put something towards a good cause	to give money or goods to a charity, fundraiser, group or person in need	

Did you Know?

Post-secondary students who live on campus for their first year have a more difficult time adjusting than commuter students? Commuter students are those who drive or take public transit to college or university. Many continue to live at home. This makes it easier to afford tuition. Those who live at home and go to post-secondary school in their own hometowns have the least to adjust to. Poor Kate. She has a lot to adjust to in first year!









Episode 12: Home for the Holidays

Dialogue

Fill in the blanks with words from the vocabulary list.

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Kate: Did I tell you how good it is to be home, Mom?

Mom: Yes, you've mentioned it a few times. I'm sorry we don't get to meet your boyfriend, though.

Kate: Jason can't leave his mom alone over the holidays. This whole divorce thing has been pretty hard on both of them.

Mom: I understand. Did you enjoy your time there? You didn't have	
much to say about it the last time we	
Kate: It's such a small town. I'd go crazy living in	•



Mom:	I hear you. Si	mall towns are ni	ce to visit, but I	prefer the	and	of the city.

Kate: They don't even have a movie theater there. Jason and I played board games with his mom all weekend. Oh, and we made beaded necklaces.

Mom: That doesn't sound so bad. You probably needed a break after such a hectic semester. You've been working like a Kate.

Kate: That's not exactly true. I should have told you this before now. My grades have really ...

Mom: That's normal for first year, Kate. It's a big adjustment from high school.

Kate: It's worse than you think. I'm _____ three of my four classes.

Mom: Kate! I had no idea it was that bad. Maybe you need to quit your job. Either that or quit _____ out with Jason so much.

Kate: I've been thinking about _____ my job, but I can't afford to.

Mom: Well, your father got his holiday _____ I'm sure he'd be happy to _____ if you decided to quit.

Kate: Really? It would make it a lot easier to concentrate on my studies. Of course it will also mean seeing less of Jason.

Comprehension Questions I

- 1. How does Kate feel being back at home?
- 2. How did Kate feel about Jason's hometown?
- 3. What does Kate's mom think her daughter has been doing this semester?
- 4. What does Kate admit to her mom?
- 5. What is Kate's mom surprised about?
- **6.** What is Kate thinking about doing to solve her problem?
- **7.** Why does Kate's mom mention a holiday bonus?







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Vocabulary Match N

Match	the words	on the le	oft to the	definitions or	n the right
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1. chat	a) to suddenly stop using or associating with
2. ditch	b) extra money given as a form of appreciation
3. hustle and bustle	c) to spend time with someone informally
4. flunk	d) to fail
5. hang out	e) busy movement of people and things
6. bonus	f) to talk with someone informally

Vocabulary Examples®

Write the correct word or phrase from the vocabulary chart beside each example.

1.	His house is half an hour from a grocery store, bank or gas station.
2.	He works 12 hour days, 5 days a week.
3.	She gave five dollars to the children's nutrition fund.
4.	The employees each got a check for 1000 dollars after the project was done.
5.	His grades went from A's to C's after his girlfriend ditched him.

My Life ✓

Discuss these questions with a partner or write your responses in a journal entry.

- 1. How do you feel when you return home after a long time away?
- 2. Do you prefer small towns or big cities?
- 3. Describe a time when your marks slipped.
- 4. Have you ever received a bonus?
- 5. Describe one major adjustment you made in your life in the past.



Stay Tuned: Episode #13

Kate vows to make school her #1 priority.

