

Faculty of Economics and Tourism
Department of International Business Management

Business English Plus: 309 3303

Week: 6

Unit 5: What are you doing tomorrow?

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I. Listening: Make an appointment

- John Santos works for Greencheck Software, an American company in Manila. He is Dr. Mark Little's assistant. John is in the office one morning when the telephone rings. Listen to the conversation and find six mistakes in the text below.

- John: John Santos, Greensoftware. How can I help you?
- Mr. Parks: Can I speak to Dr. Little, please? My name is David Parks. Dr. Little and I were in ~~New York~~ Hong Kong at a conference last week. This week I am in Manila. Dr. Little is expecting my call.
- John: I am sorry, Mr. Parks. He is in a meeting right now, but he wants me to make an appointment with you.
- Mr. Parks: Fine. Can you make a suggestion?
- John: Let me see, mmm, today is ~~Monday~~ Tuesday. Is later today possible?
- Mr. Parks: No, sorry. I am having lunch with client at ~~noon~~ one o'clock, and later today I am attending a workshop. What about tomorrow?
- John: I am sorry. Mr. Little has a lot of ~~appointments~~ meetings on Wednesday. Let's look at Thursday.
- Mr. Parks: No, no. On Thursdays I am meeting some ~~friends~~ clients. What about the day after?
- John: Friday is no problem. What's better for you, the morning or afternoon?
- Mr. Parks: The Morning is better for me.
- John: Well, why do not you come late morning, Mr. Parks? Then you can have ~~coffee~~ lunch with Dr. Lettle.
- Mr. Parks: That is a good idea. Shall we say even-thirty?
- John: Fine. Friday eleven-thirty. Thank you for your call. Goodbye.

II. Grammar Focus

- Present continuous for future plans

Structure: **S + be (is/am/are) + V_{1+ing} + Obj and/or complement**

Ex:
1) She is working late this evening.

S Be V_{1+ing} Obj Complement
↓ ↓ ↓

↓ ↓ ↓

2) You are having a meeting tomorrow.

➤ **We can use present continuous in two ways:**

A. We use present continuous to talk about actions that are happening at the time they are mentioned about.

Ex:

1) I am sorry. I cannot talk to you too long because I am at a meeting **at the moment**.

B. We use present continuous to talk about actions that will happen in the future for sure (100%).

Ex:

1) The director of my office is going on a business trip to Germany on 23th **next month**.

III. Reading:

Chinese high-speed trains and plans for the future

- (A) Passengers may soon travel from London to Beijing in just 48 hours on trains that travel as fast as airplanes.
- (B) China is planning to build a high-speed rail network to India and Europe within the next 10 years, with trains that can go at over 250 mph.
- (C) The network would carry passengers from London to Beijing and then to Singapore. It would also go to India and Pakistan. Passengers could get on a train in London and step off in Beijing, over 5,000 miles away, in just two days. They could go on to Singapore, 6,750 miles away, and be there three days after leaving London.
- (D) Another project plans to have trains that go south to connect Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, and Malaysia. Construction for the South East Asian line has already begun in the Southern Province of Yunnan, and Myanmar is planning to build its link. At present the only rail line that links China to South East Asian is a very old line built by the French in Vietnam a hundred years ago.
- (E) China itself already has the greatest length of high-speed rail in the world. It aims to connect up all its major cities with high-speed lines. It is planning to build 19,000 miles of new railways in the next five years. China has the fastest train, the Harmony Express. It runs between the cities of Wuhan and Guangzhou and has a top speed of nearly 250 mph.

A. The main idea

Make paragraph headings with the words from 1 to 6. Then match them with paragraph A to E.

1) mph/250/over

over 250 mph

B

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| 2) airplanes/as/fast/as | ...as fast as airplanes... | ...A... |
| 3) train/the/fastest/world's | ...the world's fastest train | ...E... |
| 4) two/miles/in/5,000/days | ...5,000 miles in two days | ...C... |
| 5) East/Asia/south/linking | ...linking South East Asia | ...D... |

B. Comprehension

- 1) How long is the journey on a high-speed train
 - from London to Beijing. **Two days**
 - from London to Singapore. **Three days**
- 2) How far is it
 - from London to Beijing. **5,000 miles**
 - from London to Singapore. **6,750 miles**
- 3) The articles talk about three different projects. What are they?
 1. **a high speed in India and Europe.**
 2. **trains that go south to connect Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar and Malaysia.**
 3. **high-speed lines that connect all of China's major cities.**
- 4) Describe the present rail link between China and South East Asia.
 - + **It is a very old line built by the French in Vietnam hundred years ago.**
- 5) Give three facts about the world's fastest train: its name, its speed, its route.
 - **Its name is Harmony Express.**
 - **It has a top speed of nearly 250 mph.**
 - **It runs between cities of Wuhan and Guangzhou.**

IV. Vocabularies

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Business trip | ການເດີນທາງເພື່ອເຮັດທຸລະກິດ |
| 2. Agenda | ວາລະ (ກອງປະຊຸມ) |
| 3. To take a train | ຂຶ້ນລົດໄຟຟ້າ |
| 4. Agent | ຕົວແທນ |
| 5. Contract | ສັນຍາ |
| 6. Promotion | ການສະໜັບສະໜູນ |
| 7. Express | ດ່ວນ, ໄວ |
| 8. Construction | ການກໍ່ສ້າງ |
| 9. Connect | ເຊື່ອມຕໍ່ |
| 10. Vacation | ພັກວຽກ |

V. Homework

Wrote P for the sentences that talk about the present, and F for the sentences that talk about the future.

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1) What are you doing tomorrow? | F |
| 2) John is busy. He is writing e-mails. | ...P... |
| 3) Where are you spending your next vacation? | ...F... |
| 4) Why are you wearing a raincoat? | ...P... |
| 5) Look, the rain is arriving? | ...P... |
| 6) We are having a meeting later today. | ...F... |