



Proiect cofinanțat din Programul Operațional Capital Uman 2014-2020

Axa prioritară 6: *Educație și competențe*

Prioritatea de investiții: 10.i

Obiective specifice: 6.4, 6.6

Titlu proiect: *“Acces la programe de educație și formare profesională pentru tinerii și adulții din județul Dolj care au părăsit timpuriu școala (II)”*

Cod SMIS 2014+: 135712

Could You Do Me a Favour?

JUST SAY NO

In some countries, people don't like to say no to a request. They avoid saying no by:

- 1 remaining silent
- 2 saying something vague or unclear
- 3 changing the topic
- 4 ending the conversation without answering the request
- 5 giving a false excuse
- 6 delaying a reply to the request
- 7 saying, "Yes, but. . .,"

Discussion

Do people in Romania use these ways of saying no? Which are the most common?

How would you decline these requests without saying no?

- Could I borrow your car?
- Can you lend me \$100?
- Could you please help me move to my new apartment on Sunday?
- Do you want to see a movie tonight?

1. READING

Read these three telephone conversations. Write down what each caller wants. Does the other person agree to the request? Check (✓) Yes or No.

<i>Request</i>	<i>yes / no</i>
Tina
Mike
Bill



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a)

SHARON: *[Phone rings]* Hello? TINA: Hi, Sharon. This is Tina. SHARON: Oh, hi!

TINA: Dh, I wonder if you'd mind driving me to the airport on Saturday. I'm going to visit my friend ' - Boston for the weekend.

SHARON: Wh ... What time do you have to be there?

TINA: The plane leaves at seven in the morning ... I should be at the airport by six.

SHARON: Six A.M.! Gee, I don't know, Tina. I'd 10 to help you out, but that's awfully early in the morning ... and Saturday is the only day I get sleep late.

TINA: Oh, OK. Well, thanks, anyway, Sharon. I can take a taxi.

SHARON: Oh, good. Well, have a nice weekend. TINA: Thanks. Bye-bye.

SHARON: Bye. *[Hangs up]*

b)

MARIA: *[Phone rings]* Hello?

MIKE: Hi, Maria, this is Mike. MARIA: Hi, Mike! How's everything?

MIKE: Great! Dh, you know, Maria, about the on Sunday?

MARIA: Mmm?

MIKE: Well, we need some good music. Could you bring some dancing music? You know, some dancing music? You know, something really new and hot? I know you have a good collection.

MARIA: Sure, why not? Would you like me to bring some samba records?

MIKE: Yeah, that sounds great! MARIA: All right, then. Anything else?

MIKE: No, that's all, thanks. See you Sunday. MARIA: OK, see you then. Bye-bye. *[Hangs up]*

c)

BILL: *[Dials]* ROSE: Hello?

BILL: Hi, Rose! This is Bill. How are you? ROSE: Just fine, thanks.

BILL: Uh, Rose, could you do me a favor? ROSE: Yeah, sure, Bill, if I can.



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BILL: Well, I saw a t ewriter on sale yesterday at Sears ... and I really want to buy It.

ROSE: Yeah ...

BILL: The problem is I only have a hundred and fifty dollars, and the typewriter costs *two* hundred and fifty. Also, the sale only lasts three days and I don't get paid till next week.

ROSE: Uh-huh.

BILL: SO, would you mind lending me a hundred dollars? I promise to pay you back next Friday.

ROSE: Oh, well, Bill ... I just had to ask my dad for a loan to pay tuition for next semester, so I'm really broke, too. I'm sorry.

BILL: Oh ... uh, OK, Rose, I understand. Well, n ... never mind. See you in class tomorrow.

ROSE: OK. See you. Bye. BILL: [*Hangs up*]

2. GRAMMAR FOCUS: Requests with modals

Less formal Could you let me use your car?



Would you be able to mail this letter?

Would you mind letting me use your Walkman?

Would it be OK if I borrowed your car?

Would you mind if I used it?

Most formal I wonder if you'd mind lending me your cassette player.

1. *Pair work*. Make requests with modals or *if*-clauses using the cues below. Then practice them.

a. You want to borrow someone's typewriter.

A: *Would you mind...*

B: Sorry. It's not working right.

b. You want someone to drive you to the airport.

A:

B: OK. What time?



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c. You want someone to help you move on Sunday.

A:

B: Sure, that'll be fine, but I'm only free in the afternoon.

d. You want someone to lend you a camera.

A:

B: Gee, I'm sorry. I'm going to use it later.

e. You want to use someone's telephone.

A:

B: All right. Go ahead!

2. Write five requests like the ones above using modals and *if*-clauses.

3. *Group work*. Now practice your requests. Others accept or decline. Pay attention to blended consonants.

3. **WRITING: Would you mind...?**

1 Write a note to a friend or classmate asking for several favors and explain why you need help.

Bob,

I'm taking my boss and her husband out to dinner on Saturday, and I want to make a good impression. Would you mind if I borrowed your car? I promise to drive very carefully. And I wonder if you'd mind lending me that red bow tie of yours... Could you let me know as soon as possible? Thanks!

Henry

2 **Pair work** Exchange notes and write a reply accepting or declining the requests.

Henry,



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Of course you can borrow my car on Saturday. You can pick it up at About my red bow tie, I'd like to lend it to you but ...

Bob

4. WORD POWER: Adjectives and Adverbs

<i>Adjective</i>	<i>Adverb</i>	<i>Adjective</i>	<i>Adverb</i>
angry	... <i>angrily</i> ...	.....	nervously
brave	.....	quick	.....
	desperately	..... , .....	quietly
drunken	.....	romantic	.....
.....	excitedly	.....	slowly
loud	.....	.....	.....

2 Pair work Take turns reading this telephone conversation six different ways (for example, angrily, quietly, romantically).

A: What time shall we meet?

B: Let's meet at midnight.

A: Your place or mine?

B: Yours.

3 Class activity Pairs read the conversation aloud. The class guesses how they are reading it (for example, angrily, drunkenly, loudly).

5. CONVERSATION

Read

A: Hello?

B: Hello. Can I speak to Sophia, please?

A: I'm sorry, she's not in right now. Would you like to leave a message?

B: Yes, please. This is Harry. Would you tell her that Tony's having a party on Saturday?

A: Sure.

M2-Lesson 6



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B: And please ask her if she'd like to go with me.

A: All right, Peter. I'll give her the message.

B: No, this is Harry, not Peter!

A: Oh, sorry.

B: By the way, who's Peter?

2 Pair work Cover your course and role-play the conversation. Make up your own messages.

6. GRAMMAR FOCUS: Indirect requests

Statements & imperatives

Tony is having a party.

Call me at five.

Don't be late.

Yes/No questions

Is Ann free on Friday?

Does she have my number?

Can she bring some tapes?

Will he be there?

Wh-questions

When is Sophia going?

When does the party start?

What should we bring?

Indirect requests

Could you tell her that Tony's having a party?

Would you ask Yoko to call me at five?

Can you tell Harry not to be late?

Indirect requests .



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Can you ask Ann if she's free on Friday?

Could you ask her if she has my number?

Would you ask her if she can bring some tapes?

Please ask him if he'll be there.

Indirect requests

Can you ask Sophia when she's going?

Could you ask him when the party starts?

Would you ask her what we should bring?

Put the words in these requests in the correct order. Then compare with a partner.

a. you he class ask me can Don would after meet if ?

b. telephone you your could me number give ?

c. Susan ask Walkman would my return you to ?

d. noise tell so make Vera to you can much not ?

e. the ask class you starts teacher time what party could the ?

7. READING

Read the three people leaving telephone messages.

Number 1

MAN: *[Phone rings]* Hello?

WOMAN: Hello. Is Carol Williams home?



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MAN: No, I'm sorry she's out. Would you like to leave a message?

WOMAN: Yes, please. This is Dr. Anderson's office.

Please remind Carol that she has an appointment with the dentist tomorrow at eleven A.M.

MAN: OK, dentist appointment tomorrow at eleven. WOMAN: Yes, and can you make sure she gets the message? She's missed her last two appointments.

MAN: Oh, yes, I'll be sure to tell her.

WOMAN: Thanks. Oh, and please tell her that if she doesn't show up tomorrow, we'll have to charge her for the appointment anyway.

MAN: OK.

WOMAN: Thank you. Bye. MAN: Goodbye. *[Hangs up]*

Number 2

WOMAN: *[Phone rings]* Hello? Baker residence. SAM: Hello. May I speak to Robert Baker, please?

WOMAN: I'm sorry, but he is not in at the moment.

May I take a message?

SAM: Yes, please. This is Sam from Communications Unlimited calling.

WOMAN: OK, let me write this down ... Sam from Communications Unlimited ... yes?

SAM: Mr. Baker brought his computer in last week for some repairs.

WOMAN: Oh, right.

SAM: Would you please tell him that the repairs will run around five hundred dollars?

WOMAN: Five hundred dollars? Good grief!

SAM: Uh, by the way, what exactly happened to his computer?

WOMAN: Oh, he spilled coffee all over it.

SAM: Oh, well, ask him if we should go ahead with the repairs.

WOMAN: OK, I'll do that.

SAM: Thank you.



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WOMAN: You're welcome. Bye.

SAM: Goodbye.

WOMAN: *[Hangs up]*

Number 3

FIRST MAN: *[Phone rings]* Hello?

SECOND MAN: Hi. I'd like to speak to Dennis Stone, please.

FIRST MAN: Oh, sorry, but he's not here. Can I take a message?

SECOND MAN: Yes. I'm calling from the University Bookstore. Would you tell him that the book he ordered has come in?

FIRST MAN: Oh, sure. What's the title?

SECOND MAN: Uh, let's see. The title is *Interchange*. Tell him he can pick it up between nine A.M. and eight P.M.

FIRST MAN: OK, I'll tell him.

SECOND MAN: OK, thanks. Bye.

FIRST MAN: Bye. *[Hangs up]*

8. WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAVE A MESSAGE?

1 Make up a message for a classmate.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2 Pair work Take turns making phone calls and leaving messages.

A: Hello?

B: Hello. Can I speak to ... ?

A: I'm sorry, ... not in. Would you like to leave a message?



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B: Yes, please ...

9. READING: Strange message

1 Read these true stories and make up a good title for each one.

1. One night in 1828, the captain of a ship L!J crossing the Atlantic Ocean was in his cabin when suddenly a man stepped into the room. The captain had never seen the man before. The man said nothing, but he wrote a message on the wall of the cabin and then disappeared. The message said, "Turn the ship and sail. to the northwest." The captain was surprised but decided to follow the stranger's instructions. A few hours later, he saw a small ship ahead that was sinking. The captain asked his crew to see what had happened. They only found one person on board the ship. It was the same man the captain had seen in his cabin. The man explained he had just awakened from a deep sleep. In his sleep, he dreamed that he was going to be rescued.

2. In 1956, a young Swedish sailor on a ship at sea became bored. He wrote a message and put it in a bottle. The message gave his name and address and asked any pretty girl who found it to write to him. Two years later, an Italian fisherman found the bottle and showed the message to his daughter. Just for a joke, she wrote to the sailor. He replied, and soon they started writing to each other regularly. Then they decided to meet. Shortly after their first meeting, the sailor and the fisherman's daughter got married.

3. Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth president of the United States, may have received a message about his own death in a dream. One night in 1865, he had a strange dream. He dreamed he was inside the White House. A group of people were standing around a coffin in the East Room of the White House. Many of them were crying. "Who is dead?" he asked. "The president," someone answered. "He was killed by an assassin." A few days after this, on April 14th, Lincoln was shot and killed while he was watching a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C.

2 Pair work Find the best place in each passage for these sentences.



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- Story #1: So he turned the ship to the northwest.
- Story #2: So he decided to have some fun.
- Story #3: Later, his body was taken to the East Room of the White House.

3 Have you (or has anyone you know) ever received a message in an unusual way? How? What was the message?

10. PRACTICE

1. Write requests for these situations using the cues below.

Can you

Could you

I wonder if you'd mind.....?

Would you mind

Would you mind if

Would you be able to

1 You want a classmate to lend you a dollar for a cup of coffee.

... *Could you lend me a dollar for a cup of coffee?*

2. You want a classmate to give you a ride home after class.

.... *Would you mind*

3. You want a friend to help you move the furniture.

.....

4. You want to borrow a friend's cassette player.

.....

5. You want your roommate to turn down the radio.

.....

6. You want your coworker to tell you how to get to the subway.



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.....
7. You want your roommate to take some letters to the post office.
.....



There are many different ways of making requests in English. For example, if someone wants a quarter (25 cents) to make a phone call, he or she can make the request in several different ways:
Do you have a quarter? (or) Lend me a quarter. (or) You don't have a quarter, do you?



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How does a person know which question to use? Linguists have suggested that speakers must make several important decisions before making a request. They must take the other person's feelings into account because requests can sometimes cause embarrassment to both the speaker and the listener. The listener has to make a choice either to accept or refuse the request. If he or she refuses, then both the speaker and the listener might be embarrassed.

Speakers must decide how well they know the person they are requesting something from and choose a suitable question. If the speaker knows the listener well, a direct request can be used. For example:

Direct requests

- 1 Make a statement of need: "I need a quarter."
- 2 Use an imperative: "Lend me a quarter."
- 3 Use a question: "Do you have a quarter?"

If the speaker doesn't know the listener well, an indirect request can be used instead. For example:

Indirect requests

- 4 Ask about ability: "Could/Can you lend me a quarter?"
- 5 Use may: "May I borrow a quarter?"
- 6 State the request negatively: "I don't suppose you could lend me a quarter, could you?"
- 7 Apologize: "I hope you don't mind my asking you for a quarter."
- 8 Make a hint: "I really wish I had a quarter."

So knowing how to make requests in English means knowing how to make direct and indirect requests as well as knowing when each kind of request is appropriate.

Now check (✓) if these requests are direct or indirect. Then write the correct number (1-8) for each type of request.

	Direct	Indirect	Type
Close the door.



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It's really cold in here.
Could you possibly move your car?
Do you have a dictionary?
I guess you don't have time to help	.....	.....	.....
me with this assignment, do you?	.....	.....	.....