

Chat Room for Teens **1**

includes more than 500 questions

- that are related to teenage concerns
- that provide practical, interesting vocabularies and expressions
- that are easy to apply in any situation

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Introduction

The Chat Room is a wonderful invention. It allows users instantly to communicate freely, and for free, with anyone in the world. They can talk about any subject they care to, and express their opinion in any way they like. They can even be in contact with many people at once. The Chat Room has indeed revolutionized global communication.

CHAT ROOM FOR TEENS operates in much the same way. English learners are encouraged to express themselves freely on a wide range of relevant topics. Many thought-provoking questions and examples are given to spur independent language usage. There are no specifically “right” or “wrong” answers, so there is no need for users to be intimidated — any more than if they were discussing the same topics in their own language instead of English. And this natural, interesting teaching method will build confidence as well as competence, helping the learners to master a skill that will have countless applications — social as well as commercial — around the world, for the rest of their lives.

English, after all, is actually Earthlish — if Dutch, Korean, Saudi, and Brazilian colleagues meet together in Moscow, they will undoubtedly talk to each other in English. And the ones who are best able to express themselves accurately and effortlessly will have a tremendous advantage over their less-talented fellows. Promoting this skill and facility in English is the goal and purpose of the entire line of LIS Korea books, from EXPRESS YOURSELF to TEEN TALK to any of the other fine publications by this thoughtful, progressive company.

Duane Vorhees

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Chat Room for Teens

01

LESSON 01 Can I Speak to Sue?

Warm-up Dialog

Feeling Better

Bobby : Hi, Mrs. Jones. How are you?

Mrs. Jones : I'm very well, Bobby. How are you?

Bobby : I'm okay now. Thanks.

Mrs. Jones : Sue said you were sick.

Bobby : Yes, I had the flu. I had to miss a week of school.

Mrs. Jones : Well, I'm glad you feel better now.



Bobby : May I speak to Sue?

Mrs. Jones : I'm sorry, she isn't home now. She's still in ballet class.

Bobby : When do you think she'll be back?

Mrs. Jones : She said she was going shopping first. So maybe she'll be home in two or three hours.

Bobby : May I call back then? Or can she call me?

Mrs. Jones : Of course! Can I pass along a message?

Bobby : Just tell her I need some help with all the homework I missed.

• Questions

1. What is Sue's complete name?
2. Where is Sue? What is she going to do next?
3. Why is Bobby calling her?

Pictures



- Q1: What does "Hang on" mean?
- Q2: When would someone use that expression?
- Q3: What other, similar, expressions could you use instead of "Hang on please"?

- 2.
- Q1: What does "You've got the wrong number" mean?
- Q2: When would someone use that expression?
- Q3: If someone told you you've got the wrong number, what would you say? What would you do?



- Q1: When do people use this expression?
- Q2: If you were asking someone to take a message, what would you say?
- Q3: We do not hear this expression much anymore. Why not, do you think?

- 4.
- Q1: What are some differences between talking and texting?
 - Q2: How often do you text? Who do you usually text to? Who do you usually talk to?
 - Q3: Which method of communicating do you think is more convenient? Why?



- Q1: Do you often get spam? How many spam messages do you get per week?
- Q2: How do you cope with it?
- Q3: Why do people send spam? What do you think about them?

- 6.
- Q1: Do you use the internet on your phone? Why or why not?
 - Q2: What do you use the internet for most of the time?
 - Q3: If you use the internet on your phone, how much does it cost? Is that a reasonable fee?



LESSON 01 Can I Speak to Sue?

Answer Me

• 1 An Important Question

Stella : Hi, Dad.

Dad : Hi. What's up?

Stella : I have an important question to ask.

Dad : OK. What do you want to know.

Stella : Well, can I get a new phone?

Dad : Why? Is there something wrong with the one I got you a few months ago?

Stella : No. It's fine.

Dad : Then why do you need a new one?

Stella : All my friends are getting new ones. They laugh at the one I have. They say it's old-fashioned.

Dad : But you picked it out yourself.

Stella : I know. But fashions have changed. I need to keep up.

Dad : But it'll change again in a few more months, and then again a few months later. I can't just keep buying you a new phone all the time!

Stella : I know. But, just this once, okay?

Dad : No, I don't think so.

Stella : I knew you would say that!



• Questions

1. Which one do you agree with more, Stella or her father?
2. Do you have a phone? How long have you had it? How many phones have you had in the last two years?
3. Do your parents always buy you a new one when you ask for it?

• 2 Sound Policy

Teacher : Whose phone is that ringing? Is that yours, Tommy?

Tommy : Yes, sir. I'm sorry.

Teacher : Give it to me!

Tommy : OK. Here it is. Can I have it back at the end of class?

Teacher : No, you know what the rules are. I'll give it back to you in a month.

Tommy : A month! That's not fair.

Teacher : But you know what the rules are.

Tommy : But this is my first offense. I just forgot to turn it off this time, because nobody ever calls me anyway.

Teacher : Then, since you never use it, you won't miss it for the next month, will you?

Tommy : But I need it to call other people. And I have to let my parents know where I am.

Teacher : But the rule is, if a phone rings in my class I keep it for a month. I can't treat you any differently than anyone else who has broken this rule, can I?



• Questions

1. Do you think the teacher is being fair? If you were the teacher, what would you do?
2. Do you usually take your phone to school? What are the school rules about doing so?
3. What do your parents think about your having a cell phone?

LESSON 01 Can I Speak to Sue?

Answer Me

• 3 Privacy Or Responsibility

Mom : Ralph! Who is Ronnie?

Ralph : He's a friend. Why?

Mom : Why do you need to call him so often?

Ralph : We have a lot to talk about.

Mom : Ten times a day?

Ralph : Maybe. But how do you know how many times I talk to him?

Mom : I looked at the record of calls on your cell phone.

Ralph : Mom! That's not right! This is my private business. It isn't any of your concern who I talk to or how many times. Or even what we talk about!

Mom : No, I'm your mother. I have a responsibility to watch over you.

Ralph : But I'm not doing anything wrong!
I'm just talking to my friend,
that's all!

Mom : But I don't know that. That's
why I asked you. I want to
make sure you aren't in
trouble.



• Questions

1. Who is right? Why?
2. Have you ever had a similar experience? What happened? What did you do?
3. Do you ever want to see other people's phone records? Why or why not?

• 4 Letter From Dad

Michael : I got a wonderful surprise today.

Joan : What was it?

Michael : I got a letter from my dad.

Joan : A letter? Did he go someplace?

Michael : No, he's right here, just like every day.

Joan : Then why did he send you a letter? What did it say?

Michael : Oh, nothing special. He just wanted me to know that he loves me.

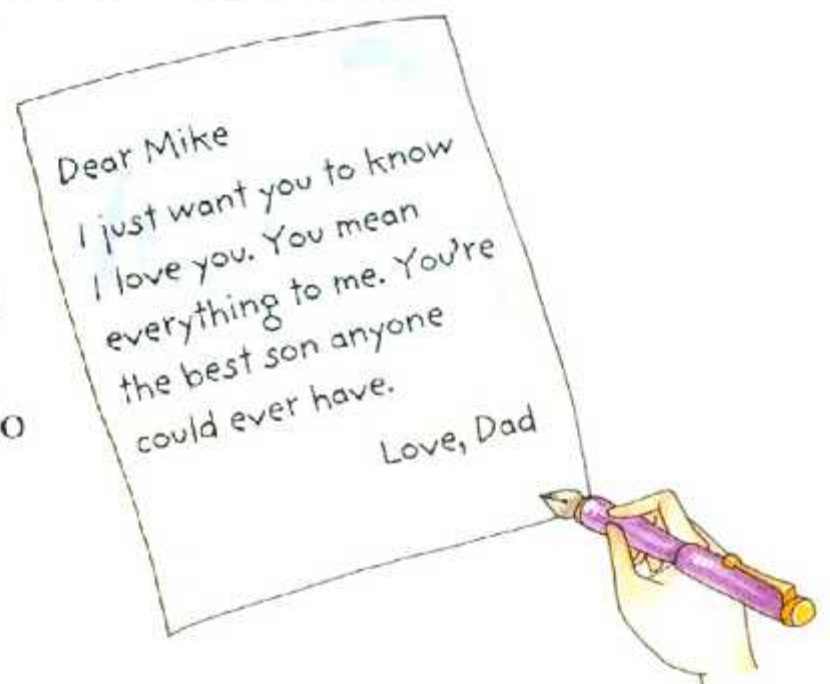
Joan : Doesn't he ever tell you that at home?

Michael : Of course he does!

Joan : Then why did he send you a letter to tell you that?

Michael : I don't know, but I think it's sweet. It's very special. It's not like getting an ordinary text message or a phone call.

Joan : Hmmmmmm. Maybe I should write a letter to my mom and tell her how much she means to me. I bet she'll be surprised!



• Questions

1. Why do people seldom write letters any more?
2. Have you ever written a letter to a friend? What kind of message did it contain?
3. Do you have a pen pal?

LESSON 01 Can I Speak to Sue?

Let's Talk More

• 1 No Call Back

I called Frank yesterday. I needed to find out if he has a sweater I lost. I think it's at his house. But he didn't answer my call, and he didn't call me back. So I sent him a text message, and he didn't respond to that, either. Now I'm very angry at him. I think he should have called me back. That's just common courtesy, don't you think? I'm sure he's deliberately ignoring me for some reason. What should I do?

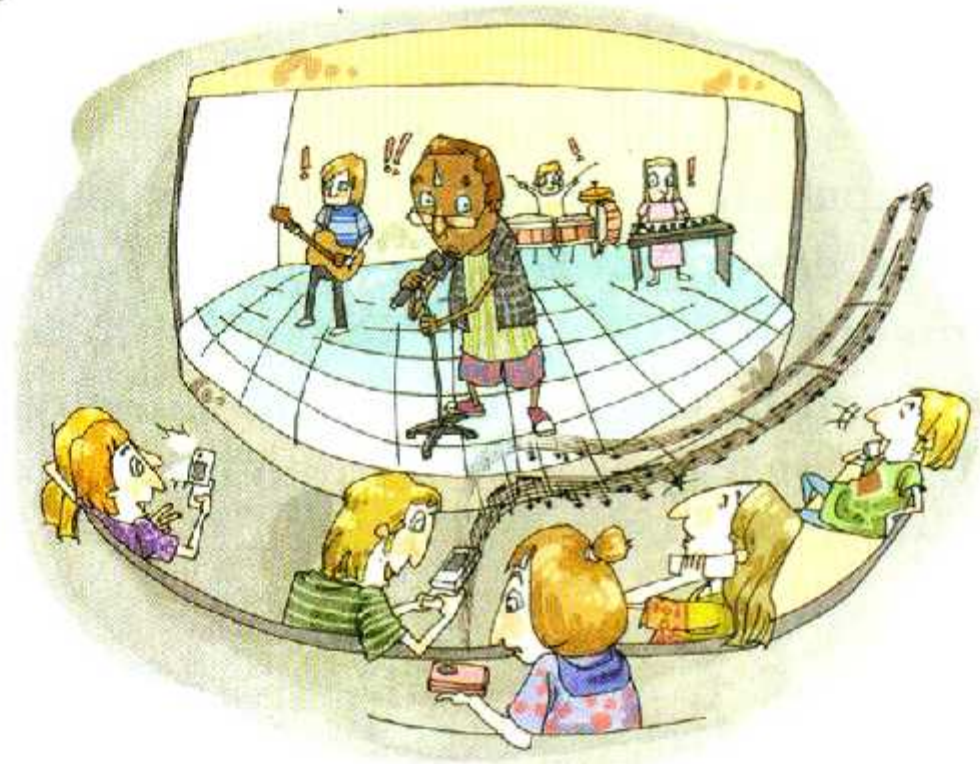


• Questions

1. Would you be angry if something like this happened to you? Explain your answer.
2. If someone calls you or leaves a text message, do you always call back?
3. What are some possible reasons why Frank didn't answer or call back?

• 2 Disconcerting

I went to the concert last night. The musicians were wonderful! But people in the audience were not so terrific. Every few minutes, somebody's phone would go off, distracting me from the music. Even worse than that, sometimes those rude people would actually talk on their phones! I think this behavior is disgusting! I went to the concert to enjoy the music, but it was constantly being interrupted. I'm sure the musicians were just as upset as I was, too. I can't understand how anyone can be so discourteous in public.'



Who's paying attention to what?

• Questions

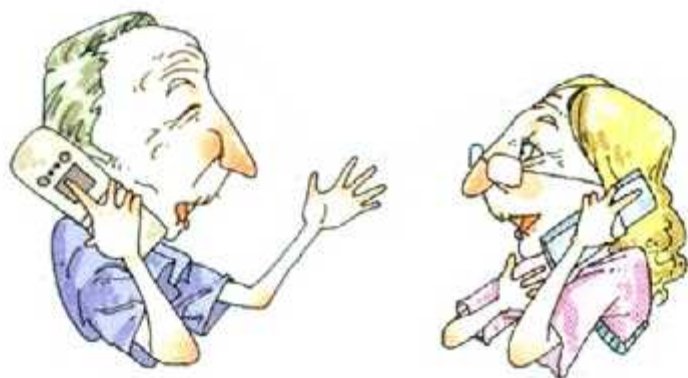
1. Do you always turn your phone off or put it on vibrate when you are in a public place?
2. Why should people in public respect the privacy of others?
3. How do you behave if other people bother you with their private calls in public? Do you ask them to be quiet or just ignore them?

LESSON 01 Can I Speak to Sue?

— Let's Talk More —

• 3 Thumbs Up! Or Thumbs Down!

Easier to call!



Youngsters have grown so skillful at sending text messages that they are now called “thumbsters.” It even seems that they can communicate better with their thumbs than with their tongues. But older people have a lot of trouble using the new technology. They are very clumsy with their thumbs, so they are not very fast or accurate. Many of them try to

compensate by using their fingers instead. But even doing that is hard for them. So, even though it costs more, they would rather communicate the old-fashioned way: using their phones to talk into instead of typing on.



Cheaper to text!

• Questions

1. Why are some people called thumbsters? (What two English words are being combined?)
2. Why do older people have trouble sending text messages?
3. How did people use their phones to communicate in the past? Do people still do that?

• 4 Home Phone

I don't understand why anybody still has a regular phone at home. We have one, even though everyone in my family has a mobile phone of his own. My father has two mobile phones! But we still have the old-fashioned phone in the living room. I know it costs money every month, but we keep it anyway. I wonder why.



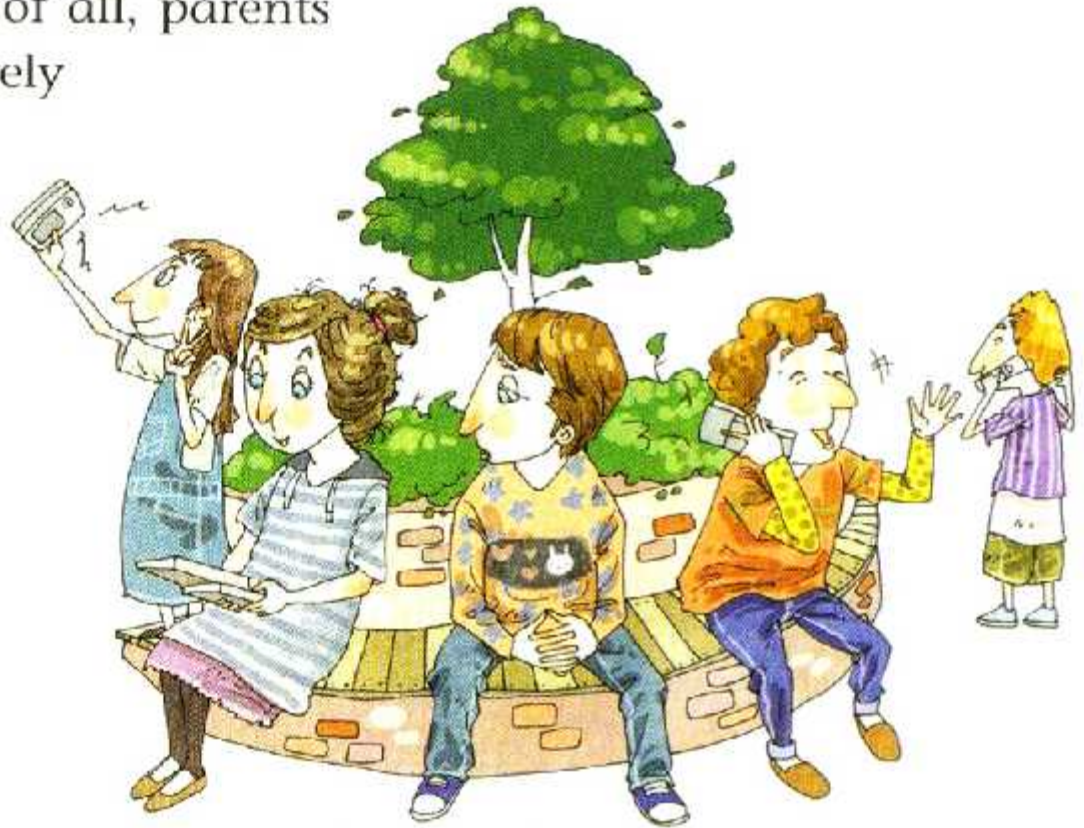
• Questions

1. What reasons would someone with a mobile phone want to keep a home phone as well?
2. Do you use your home phone often? Why or why not?
3. Why would some people have more than one mobile phone?

— Read Me —

I Want A Phone

Parents don't know what to do about a modern technology fad. Their kids keep asking for mobile phones of their own, and many parents are reluctant to buy them. They worry about the expense, of course, and they are afraid that their children will lose them or break them. In addition, parents think phones interfere with studying. There is also a lot of concern about some adults who use cell phones to stalk innocent children. Most of all, parents suspect that kids are merely reacting to peer pressure: they don't have any real need for a cell phone, but they want one because "all" of their friends have one.



*Nobody will talk to me
if I don't have a phone.*

• Questions

1. Do you think parents should buy a mobile phone for a very young child? How old should a kid be before he has a phone of his own?
2. What happens if a parent says no?
3. What do your parents think about your having a phone? Did they gladly get you one, did you pressure them into getting you one, or don't you have one?