EPISODE 132

Bring, Carry, Take or Fetch?

Full transcript · mini-story · vocabulary review

Hi, dear listener! I'm Georgiana, founder of the Speak English Now podcast. My mission is to help you to speak English fluently. Speaking English is way easier when you use the right material and techniques.

Do you know the difference **between** the words "**bring,**" "**carry,**" "**fetch,**" and "take?"

If the answer is no, this is going to be a very useful episode for you.

I'll start by explaining the meaning of each of these terms with some examples.

And in the second part of this lesson, you are going to practice your speech with a funny mini-story.

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Ok! Let's begin this new episode!

When do we use the word "**BRING**"?

1) "**Bring**" means to conduct something/someone to come with, to, or toward the speaker.

Examples:

"Jason, please bring me a beer."

"He brought his brother to the hospital."

When do we use the word TAKE?

2) "Take" means taking something/someone away from where you are, or when the person making the request is NOT at the intended destination."

Examples:

"Am I allowed to take library books home with me?"

"Can I take you to the movies tonight?"

"Could you take these files to Jame's office?"

The following examples will help you to remember the **differences between** "**bring**" and "take":

Examples:

"You bring something/someone here, and you take something there. "

"You bring something/someone toward a person, and you take something away from a person."

So far, so good?

Ok. Let's continue.

When do we use the word **CARRY**?

3) To "**carry**" means to move while holding something/someone, in a vehicle, in our hand or body. We use it when the person making the request is NOT at the intended destination.

Examples:

"Bill, would you please carry my suitcase?"

"Tom is carrying me in his arms."

When do we use the word "FECTH"?

4) "FETCH" means to go and bring back or to return something/someone.

Examples:

"Rex, fetch the ball!"

"Sandra, go and fetch the doctor!

Now, let's practice.

Mini-Story

Speaking Practice

Answer the questions aloud with short and quick responses. Repeat the Mini-Story several times to improve your speaking and listening.

All right! Now let's practice with a short question-and-answer exercise. Sometimes I call it a conversation simulator because you practice your English like in a real conversation.

Here's how it works: I give you information and ask simple questions. After each question, there is a pause where you can answer. After the pause, I give you a correct answer for you to compare.

Today I will talk about Tom, a wealthy man who spends all day giving orders.

Are you ready? Let's go!

Tom had a perfect life. He spent the whole day, giving orders to his servants.

Did Tom have a terrible life?

No. No. He didn't have a terrible life. His life was perfect.

Tom spent all day receiving orders from his servants. Right?

No. No. He didn't receive any orders from his servants. He gave the orders.

To whom did he give orders? To his children?

No. No. He didn't give orders to his children. He gave orders to his servants.

What did Tom spend? Did he spend his money?

No. Tom didn't spend his money. He spent his time giving orders.

In the morning, he told his butler to bring him breakfast in bed.

When did he tell his butler something?

In the morning. He told his butler something in the morning.

What did Tom tell his butler? Did he tell him to open the door?

No. No. Tom didn't tell his butler to open the door. He told him to bring his breakfast.

Where was the butler supposed to bring breakfast? In the dining room?

No. No. The butler wasn't supposed to bring breakfast into the dining room. He had to take it to Tom's bed.

In the afternoon, he asked his chauffeur (car driver) to take him to the golf club.

Did he ask the chauffeur in the afternoon or in the evening?

In the afternoon. Tom asked the chauffeur in the afternoon.

Did he ask the chauffeur to take him to the supermarket?

No. No. He didn't ask the chauffeur to take him to the supermarket. He asked the chauffeur to take him to the golf club.

Did Tom ask the butler to take him to the golf club?
No. No. He didn't ask the butler. Tom asked the chauffeur to take him to the golf club.

In the evening, he ordered his dog to fetch some tennis balls.

Did Tom order anyone?
Yes, he ordered his dog to do something.

So what did Tom order his dog to do?
He ordered his dog to fetch some tennis balls.

Did the dog have to catch tennis balls or golf balls?
Not golf balls. Tom's dog had to fetch tennis balls.

At night, Tom suddenly wakes up, and he slowly realizes that it was all a dream.

Did he wake up slowly or suddenly?
Suddenly. He woke up suddenly.

Tom continued sleeping. Right?
No.No. Tom didn't continue sleeping. He woke up.

Did Tom realize it was a dream?
Yes. Tom realized it was just a dream.

Poor Tom! He woke up realizing that everything was a dream. Hopefully, his dream will come true someday. Who knows, he may receive an inheritance from a distant relative.

Thanks for listening, and I'll see you in the next episode.

Review

Vocabulary from This Episode

Review the most useful words and expressions before listening again.

01 **Bring** To move something or someone toward the speaker or toward a person.	05 **Toward** In the direction of a person or place.
02 **Take** To move something or someone away from where you are.	06 **Away from** In the direction that increases the distance from a person or place.
03 **Carry** To move while holding or transporting something or someone.	07 **Intended destination** The place where someone or something is supposed to go.
04 **Fetch** To go somewhere and bring something or someone back.	08 **Go and bring back** The basic idea expressed by the verb 'fetch.'

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