EPISODE 313

Back to School — Part 2

Full transcript · point of view · 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.

In this episode, we continue learning more vocabulary related to **school** supplies.

And with an exclusive point of view story, you'll learn grammar without memorizing any boring rules.

Remember that you can get the text of this episode at

speakenglishpodcast.com

Ok. Let's continue.

The show is available everywhere on the internet!

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However, you can also find the podcast on different apps like Spotify, iTunes, Youtube, Facebook, Soundcloud, etc.

Just look for "Speak English Now with Georgiana," and start learning English with me!"

Ok! Let's start today's lesson by going over the vocabulary used last week in episode #104.

In the previous episode, we talked about going back to **school**, focusing on the necessary material. We learned some new words.

Let's listen to them one more time:

notebook

clips

paper sheets

pens

pencils

eraser

felt-tips

markers

ruler

Now it's time to learn new vocabulary:

Let's start!

Agenda

I think it's the most crucial element for a student. An agenda contains the days of the year and the holidays. So, the student can write down the dates of exams, activities, etc. In this way, in theory, everything is under control. I say this in theory because many times kids forget to write things down and it's chaos. I remember when I was little, I was a bit absent-minded and rarely wrote anything down. I once lost my agenda, and I still don't know how I passed the different courses.

Textbooks

One disadvantage of textbooks is that they are really heavy. This is something I didn't like when I was in **school**. Although I loved the way textbooks used to smell when they were new.

Scissors

Sooner or later, every student needs to cut a piece of paper or something else. We do not use knives or axes or laser swords like a Jedi. That would be inefficient and dangerous. That's why we use scissors in the classroom. They are useful and safer than a sword :)

Glue

Scissors can be used to divide a paper in two, while glue can be used to stick two sheets of paper, for instance. There are different types of glue. For example, the glue stick is quite popular. Simply remove the lid and apply the stick where you want to add glue. Other glue formats that are equally effective. Pay attention to the type of glue you buy, because it wouldn't be the first time a child sticks his fingers together and then can't pull them apart. Make sure you purchase paper glue.

Transparent adhesive tape roll

This transparent tape has many uses. So if you don't want to use the glue, it's a great alternative.

Folder

A folder is essential for organizing sheets, notes, etc. I had one with dividers. So, in theory, I had all my papers organized, although I usually put some sheets in the wrong place in the folder. In the end, I spent a lot of time looking for those sheets.

(Pen and pencil) Case

Where do we put all the pens, pencils, erasers, and markers? In a plastic bag? No, no. That's not very elegant and it's quite impractical. So it's best to use a case. It's a kind of cover where you can store your school stuff. Obviously, they come in different types of materials and colors.

Backpack

And where do you keep the case? Well, the case, the notebooks, the textbooks, the folder...and the sandwich. 🥪

Don't forget your lunch. That's the most important thing. 😀

You need a good backpack or rucksack to carry all that.

Stapler

If you don't like clips, you can use a stapler to **staple** your notes or whatever you want. A stapler without staples is useless though. So you need to put staples in the stapler. Also, just in case, a **staple remover**, which is a small tool that allows you to remove the staples.

Wow! You must be really confused by now because I used the word stapler, staple, staples, and staple remover. You see, that's why I always tell you to learn English in context. So, just listen to this lesson until you **get the hang of** the different meanings.

Well, I think that's enough for now. I'm sure there are other school materials I haven't mentioned, but I think it's a great selection of vocabulary. Remember that the most effective way to learn any vocabulary is to see it in context.

Now, let's practice.

Point of View

Past & Future

Read the same story in two different points of view and notice how the grammar changes naturally.

First version

Present Tense - Third Person

A mother wakes her son in the morning, telling him that he has to get up to go to school. The son replies that he doesn't want to go and that he wants to stay at home. His mother, angry, asks him why he doesn't want to go. The son responds by giving three reasons. The first reason is that he is very sleepy. The second reason is that he gets bored in school and the third reason is that the children laugh at him.

The mother, looking at her son, perplexed, gives him three other reasons to go to school. The first reason: it's his obligation, even if he doesn't like it. The second reason: he's forty years old. The third reason: he is the **school principal**.

Second version

Present Tense - Mother's Viewpoint

I wake up my son in the morning and tell him that he has to get up to go to school. My son replies that he doesn't want to go and that he wants to stay at home. Angry, I ask him why he doesn't want to go. My son responds by giving me three reasons. The first reason is that he is very sleepy. The second reason he gives me is that he gets bored at school, and the third reason is that the kids laugh at him.

Looking at my son perplexed, I give him three other reasons to go to school. The first reason: it's his obligation, even if he doesn't like it. The second reason: he is already forty years old. The third reason: he is the school principal.

Third version

Present Tense - Son's Viewpoint

My mother wakes me up in the morning and tells me that I have to get up to go to school. I reply that I don't want to go and that I want to stay at home. My mother, angry, asks me why I don't want to go. I respond, giving three reasons. The first reason is that I am very sleepy.

The second reason I give her is that I get bored at school, and the third reason is that the kids laugh at me.

My mother, looking at me perplexed, gives me three other reasons to go to school. The first reason is that it's my obligation, even if I don't like it. The second reason: I am forty years old. The third reason: I am the school principal

Maybe I have to pay more attention to my mother!

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 binder a cover with rings used to organize papers.	**05 staple remover** a tool used to take staples out of paper.
02 folder a cover used to hold and organize documents.	**06 paper clip** a bent piece of wire used to hold papers together.
03 stapler a tool that fastens papers with metal staples.	**07 school principal** the person in charge of a school.
04 staple a small metal fastener used to join papers.	**08 get the hang of** begin to understand how to do or use something.

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