

Making positive suggestions

- 1 (1.23) Read and listen to the dialogue. What does Karen regret?



Helen Hi, Karen. How were your exam results?
Karen Bad news, I afraid. I failed my biology exam and I didn't get into Bristol University. If only I had spent more time studying biology. I really wanted to go to Bristol. Apart from the course, they've got great sports facilities, and my sister's studying there.
Helen That's too bad. But don't give up. Provided that you study a bit harder, you could apply again for next year.
Karen Maybe. Do you know what my problem is? I've been too obsessed with tennis. I wish I'd never listened to the tennis coach who told me I could become a national champion. Why didn't I listen to my mother instead?
Helen But Karen, you are the regional youth champion! Imagine if you hadn't listened to the coach – you wouldn't be the great tennis player that you are today! Why don't you think about trying to get sponsorship to continue your tennis training and study at the same time?
Karen I suppose I could get a job. I could do some tennis coaching myself.
Helen The important thing is, so long as you devote enough time to studying, you'll have a good chance of being successful.

- 2 Read the *Look out!* box. Then read the dialogue again and find four sentences that Helen uses to make positive suggestions to comfort Karen and resolve the situation.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

LOOK OUT!

Making positive suggestions

When people are dealing with a problem we can make positive suggestions to try to help. We often use conditionals to give support, and questions using *Why don't you?* to make suggestions.

- 3 (1.24) Listen to the way that Karen expresses regret. Which word is emphasized in each sentence? Listen and repeat.
- 1 If only I had spent more time studying biology.
 - 2 I wish I'd never listened to the tennis coach
 - 3 Why didn't I listen to my mother instead?

- 4 (1.25) Listen to two dialogues. What does each speaker express regret about?

Dialogue 1

Dialogue 2

- 5 (1.25) Listen to the dialogues again. Complete the sentences.

Dialogue 1

- 1 _____
some new clothes.
- 2 _____
you could borrow a jumper or a jacket.

Dialogue 2

- 3 _____
you might be just as unhappy.
- 4 _____
your CV again?
- 5 _____
companies will see your potential.

- 6 Work in pairs. Choose one of the situations and write a dialogue expressing regret and making positive suggestions.

Situation 1

The airport bus was stuck in a traffic jam and you have just missed your flight to Paris. You have an interview in Paris for an internship. Unfortunately, you spent all your savings on a new bike so you can't buy a new ticket. Tell your friend about your problem and express your regrets.

Situation 2

You have just read some of the winning essays in a writing competition. If you had entered the competition, you might have won a prize. Some of the winners will be given free places on a prestigious summer writing course. Your friend often comes up with good advice, tell him or her why you didn't enter the competition and why you regret this.

- 7 Act out your dialogue to the class.