

2**RELATIONAL LANGUAGE**

This document provides additional materials relating to Chapter 2 of *Social English Power* by Peter Clarke. For more information, visit SocialEnglishPower.com

PRACTICE 2.4: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Small to medium. Choose a mild to moderate expression, e.g. *What bad luck!*
2. Big. Choose a strong expression, e.g. *Oh no! I'm shocked to hear that.*
3. Small. Choose a mild expression, e.g. *Oh dear, that's a shame.*
4. Small to medium. Choose a mild to moderate expression, e.g. *That's a bit of a downer.*
5. Medium to big. Choose a moderate to strong expression, e.g. *You're kidding! That's terrible.*
6. Small. Choose a mild expression, e.g. *What a pity!*
7. Big. Choose a strong expression, e.g. *Oh my goodness! What an awful thing to happen!*
8. Small to medium. Choose a mild to moderate expression, e.g. *You're joking! That's a bit of a problem.*

PRACTICE 2.5: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Amelia could say: *Oh good, I'm relieved to hear that.*
2. Dave could say: *So I suppose it could be worse. It's a nuisance, but at least there's not much data lost.*
3. Nina could say: *Well, at least there's a positive side: it won't be interfering with your studies.*

PRACTICE 2.7: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Big. Use a strong expression, e.g. *That's fantastic, I'm thrilled to hear that.*

2. Medium. Use a moderate expression, e.g. *Congratulations! That's really great.*
3. Small to medium. Use a mild to moderate expression, e.g. *That's a rather nice stroke of luck.*
4. Medium to big. Use a moderate to strong expression, e.g. *You're kidding! That's awesome. Put it there!*
5. Big. Use a strong expression, e.g. *That's wonderful, I'm thrilled to hear that.*
6. Medium. Use a moderate expression, e.g. *You're joking! That's excellent, well done!*
7. Medium to big. Use a moderate to strong expression, e.g. *Wow, that's awesome, congratulations!*
8. Medium. Use a moderate expression such as *That's well cool, I'm delighted to hear that.*

PRACTICE 2.10: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. I had a ride in a helicopter yesterday. It was loads of fun. I'm still *on a high* (= feeling excited).
2. I've got an appointment at the dentist's tomorrow. I'm feeling kind of apprehensive about it.
3. The sun is shining and everything's going well. I'm feeling cheerful today.
4. I hate this gloomy weather. It always makes me feel down.
5. I just heard my best friend is getting married. I'm thrilled to bits for him/her.
6. I'm fed up with my mobile phone. It's just crashed for the third time this week.
7. I just heard that I've passed my professional exam. I'm absolutely over the moon.
8. Guess what? My brother crashed my beautiful little car yesterday. I'm absolutely gutted.

PRACTICE 2.12: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Vague. No time or reason given.
2. Definite. A time is given, and the reason is obvious.
3. Vague, but asking for a specific response.
4. Definite. A time and a reason are given.
5. Vague. No time is given, although the reason is obvious.
6. Definite. A time and a reason (to thank you for your help) are given.

PRACTICE 2.13: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Step 2 is missing. You could say “It’s next Tuesday from 10am to 4pm at the downtown campus.”
2. Steps 1, 2 and 4 are missing. You could say “It’s such a nice day, I’d like to go to the swimming pool and relax for a while. Would you like to come along? It’s a nice facility and you would get to meet some of my other friends.”
3. Step 4 is missing. You could say “I know you have great taste in clothes, and I’d appreciate your company—not to mention that I need you to help me choose something that really looks good.”
4. Step 3 is missing. You could say “So, would you like to join us?”
5. All the steps are there, but steps 2 and 4 could be increased. For example, you could say “I was thinking of going along in the afternoon for a couple of hours, and it’d be fun to go together.”

PRACTICE 2.14: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Give details, e.g. “They’re performing at the West Point Arts Centre on Tuesday evening.”
2. Give details, e.g. “I hear it’s a great club, and if we both join then it’s only \$100 each per month. So I was thinking of checking it out tomorrow after work.”
3. Give a specific invitation, e.g. “Do you fancy coming down to the food centre with me?”

PRACTICE 2.15: SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1.

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- PERSON A The spring flower show is on all this week at the Riverside Park. I'd love to invite you along. You must see it, as it's really part of our local culture.
- PERSON B OK, that'd be good.
- PERSON B When were you thinking of going? Oh, and how much does it cost to get in?
- PERSON A Well, it's \$5 to get in, and I was thinking of going on Wednesday morning—better go in the morning when it's less busy. How does that sound?
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2.

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- PERSON A Have you ever tried bungee jumping? They just opened the new bungee jump at HappyDays Park, and I'd like to give it a try. Want to come along with me? It's less scary if you go with a friend.
- PERSON B I'm not sure if bungee jumping is really my cup of tea. It seems a bit on the dangerous side* to me.
- PERSON A Oh, go on! It's actually very safe, and it'll be a real hoot (= a lot of fun) to go together. So, how about it?
- PERSON B Well, OK, you've persuaded me. I'll give it a try.
- PERSON A That's great! How about Saturday afternoon, then?
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** A bit on the (adjective) side: Quite/fairly + adjective.*

3.

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- PERSON A My client just gave me two free tickets for a jazz concert on Saturday night. Since you love music, why don't you come along with me?

PERSON B To tell you the truth, I'm not a big jazz fan. Not sure if it'd really be my cup of tea.

PERSON A Are you sure you don't want to give it a try? I'd really appreciate the company,* and you never know,* you might enjoy it.

PERSON B Sorry, I really don't fancy it. I'd rather give it a miss,* if you don't mind.

PERSON A That's ok, I understand. Maybe if I get tickets for a pop concert next time, would you be interested?

PERSON B Absolutely. I'm much more into pop, really.

* *Company: Companionship, being together with other people.*

You never know: you might be surprised.

Give it a miss: Don't join in with the activity.
