

What to Do in an Emergency

Lindsay: So guys, how's it going?

Speaker 1: Good, how are you?

Speaker 2: Pretty good.

Speaker 3: Great.

Lindsay: I'm okay, but actually, (you know what), a friend of mine got in a car accident last night.

Speaker 3: Oh no.

Speaker 1: I'm sorry.

Lindsay: Yeah, it's true actually. (Um), yeah, he got rear-ended.

Speaker 2: Oh man.

Lindsay: Right. So he was driving from Newton, I think, into Boston and just driving and someone hit him from behind.

Key Vocabulary Words

1. "Is there a doctor around?"

2. To know first aid

3. To choke

4. To know the Heimlich

5. To pass out

6. To have a break- in

Speaker 1: Wow.

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Speaker 3: Wow.

Speaker 1: That's the worst.

Speaker 3: Is he okay?

Lindsay: He's okay. They told him to go to the hospital, he didn't go.

Speaker 2: Oh, wow.

Speaker 3: Oh.

Lindsay: Yeah.

Speaker 2: On my way over here actually, there – I was a – running a little bit late because there was two cars that had crashed and (tho-) -- they were actually on opposite sides of the street and look like they were half a block apart. I'm not sure what exactly happened, but the fire truck had arrived and (um), I saw the driver

was still in the driver's seat, but the, (uh), air bag had exploded and he, looked like he was just sitting (like) in the air bag. I don't know if he wasn't able to move, but he gave a thumbs up like he was okay. Know (I don't know). We'll see.

Lindsay: Have you guys ever been in an emergency, like a car accident, or a fire?

Speaker : (Um), I have never been in a car accident with another car, (um), but I did, (um), I was driving late at night with a friend, (um), and we were in a really poorly lit area and we, (um), drove over a curb into (kind of) a, a field basically because we couldn't see where we were going, (um), and the car was really messed up. We were okay thankfully. (Um), but we did have to call the police, (um), and a tow truck to get the

car out. (Um), and, (you know), they did, they did encourage us to go to the hospital, (um), but, (you know), we, we felt okay, so – and it was really, really late at night. So we basically said if we felt bad the next morning, we would go. But we, we ended up being okay, which was a relief, so.

Lindsay: Okay. Great. So, I'm glad to hear you were okay.

Speaker 1: Yeah, it was really scary.

Lindsay: Yeah. How 'bout (about) you? Have you...?

Speaker 3: I have. I've had – unfortunately, I've been in a couple of car accidents, but I've – I was also in a fire and in an earthquake.

Speaker 2: Oh my...

Lindsay: Whoa!

Speaker 3: I don't have good luck.

Lindsay: I know, I know. Yeah. Geesh. But you survived...

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Speaker 3: Oh, I'm okay.

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Lindsay: ...all the situations.

Speaker 3: Yeah, yeah.

Lindsay: So in the US, if someone's here in the US and they're from another country and they're in an emergency, (you know), what should they -- what can they do here in the US? What are the options for them?

Speaker 1: (Um), if it's a medical emergency, if someone's really hurt, (um), you always wanna (want to) call 911 first, (um), because they will make sure that you get, (um), the kind of help that you need, (um). And that's not only for medical emergencies, but that's always what I think of, if someone has **passed out** and is unconscious or if

someone has fallen down and really hurt themselves, (um), or anything, (I mean), (you know), burned themselves badly in the kitchen, or whatever, (um), call 911 first because they will talk you through what to do to make sure that the person is okay until either an ambulance, or a fire truck, or the police can get there.

Lindsay: Okay, so it's 911?

Speaker 1: Yes.

Lindsay: Good. Anything else people can do?

Speaker 2: If you're in a public place, (um), and maybe somebody has some type of medical emergency, I would maybe shout, **"Is there a doctor around,"** because you never know who's around and maybe somebody could help if you don't know CPR – if anything really. Maybe, I don't know, if someone's having – in their – they're going into labor and you need a doctor. I don't know.

Lindsay: Yeah, so you would say, you would shout, "Is there a doctor?"

Speaker 2: Yeah.

Lindsay: Okay.

Speaker 3: And you could also ask if anyone knows first aid.

Lindsay: Ah, okay, so "Does anyone know first aid?"

Speaker 3: First aid.

Lindsay: Ah, that's important. And what are some other expressions that we can (uti-), use if we do need help?

Speaker 1: Well, (um), another (kind of), (um), emergency that, (um), hopefully no one will ever get into, but it does sometimes happen, is, (um), if you get mugged or robbed, (um), while you're on the street. (Um), (you know), that can be really scary especially if the person who's robbing you has a weapon of some kind, it can be really, really upsetting. So you wanna (want to) try to call the police, (um), and tell them that you were robbed, (um), as soon as you can, (um), because that way they might be able to catch the person and not only get your stuff back, but also, (you know), make sure that they, (you know), are taken in by the police, so.

Lindsay: Yeah, I know around here a few years ago, when I first moved in, we were having a lot of robberies, a lot of (like) armed robberies around Harvard Square, Porter Square, Central Square. I was surprised because it seems like a pretty...

Speaker 3: Safe area.

Lindsay: ...small city, it's a pretty relaxed area. Yeah.

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Speaker 3: I (th-) – what's nice about many of the universities in this area is that they will have those blue boxes...

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Speaker 1: Yes.

Lindsay: (Uh).

Speaker 3: ...that students can go to, or anyone who's in the area can go to and it's a phone that goes directly to the police.

Lindsay: Oh, okay. That's great.

Speaker 3: Yeah.

Speaker 1: A lot of universities also have, (um), public safety officers, (um), who are not actually police, but they are security guards and their job is to help keep people safe while they're on campus. So even if you just feel unsafe, (like) if

you think somebody is following you, (um), (you know), you can go to them and ask them for help, (um), and, and they'll, (you know), sometimes walk you to your car or stay with you until someone comes to pick you up, (um), make sure that you get where you need to go safely.

Speaker 2: I know a couple of campuses too, at least a few, that will even drive you somewhere at night. They have an escort service at night just -- you don't have to have any reason other than you don't feel safe at night and they'll bring you exactly where you need to go.

Lindsay: Right. That's great. And then to get some exact vocabulary of situations, let's see if we can do this. So if I have my hands on my throat and I have just eaten something, what could, what would I say?

Speaker 1: I'm choking...

Lindsay: Yeah, I wouldn't say it, but...

Speaker 1: Someone else would say, (um), "Someone's choking, **this person's choking** on their food."

Lindsay: Yeah, exactly. And...

Speaker 3: And they might want to ask if anyone knows the Heimlich maneuver.

Lindsay: Ah, the Heimlich. Ooh, that's a good one. Yeah. "**Does anyone know the Heimlich?**" Right.

Speaker 3: "Does anyone know the Heimlich?" Yeah.

Lindsay: Okay, and what about if someone's on the ground and they're just, they've (kind of) lost their mind, they don't seem to be (kind of) functioning mentally.

Speaker 3: This person's unconscious.

Lindsay: Right.

Speaker 2: Yeah.

Lindsay: That sounded real.

Speaker 3: Or... yeah, I know. Or they could say, "**This person has passed out.**"

Lindsay: Right. That's another good one, so passed out, or is unconscious. Okay.

Speaker 3: Or fainted.

Lindsay: Yeah.

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Speaker 1: Yeah.

Lindsay: Yeah, fainted. What if someone is grabbing their, (you know), their chest, like...?

Speaker 3: Maybe they're having a heart attack.

Lindsay: Yeah, "I think he's having a heart attack."

Speaker 3: "I think he's having a heart attack."

Lindsay: (Uh-hm), or just chest pain maybe.

Speaker 1: Yeah, just say, "My chest hurts."

Lindsay: Right. And what if

someone comes into your house and takes your things.

Speaker 1: That would be "We've been robbed," (right).

Lindsay: Exactly.

Speaker 1: Or, "We've had a break-in," also is another phrase.

Lindsay: A break-in. that's a good one too. Okay. Well, thanks guys. This has been a really important topic.

Speaker 2: Yeah, good luck.

Speaker 3: Sure.

Speaker 1: Yeah.

Speaker 2: Be safe.

