

A domestic disagreement

WORKSHEET A

- Ella:** How come this carpet's covered in crumbs? Have you been eating those biscuits again?
- Paul:** Yeah. They're nice.
- Ella:** Well, you know where the Hoover[®] is.
- Paul:** I thought it was your turn.
- Ella:** No, Paul, we agreed about today's chores. We said I'd do the shopping and you'd do the washing up, the dusting and the Hoovering. And what about the bathroom? You said you'd clean it about three days ago. We've got people coming round for dinner tonight. Do you really want them using our bathroom the way it looks at the moment?
- Paul:** They won't notice. I haven't changed that light bulb yet, so it's quite dark in there.
- Ella:** It's not funny, Paul. It's not fair to be lazy like this. Especially when I've just been shopping for an hour and a half. You know what the supermarket's like on a Saturday – the queues are awful. And I had to wait twenty minutes for the bus back. Twenty minutes! I'm exhausted, and you've just been sitting here watching TV.
- Paul:** That's not true. I've made the bed.
- Ella:** Big deal.
- Paul:** Hey, don't start saying I don't do my share around the flat, ok? Who does all the DIY? Who put these shelves up last weekend?
- Ella:** You did. All I'm saying is that we'll have guests here in about three hours and this flat's a pigsty. So we need to get a move on. I can't start cooking until you've done the washing up – all the pans I need are dirty.
- Paul:** Alright, alright. Just let me finish my tea, ok? There's no rush.
- Ella:** That's easy for you to say. You haven't got a three-course meal to make.
- Paul:** Well, cooking's easier than cleaning.
- Ella:** How do you know? When was the last time you cooked for guests?
- Paul:** Er...
- Ella:** Exactly. Now come on, let's make a start. If you run out of washing-up liquid there's a new bottle in my shopping bag.

A domestic disagreement

WORKSHEET B

Exercise 1

Answer the questions below.

1. Where do you think the conversation takes place? (Give reasons for your answer.)
2. What was the chore Ella had agreed to do?
3. Why is Ella worried about the bathroom?
4. What kind of work in the flat does Paul say he always does?
5. Apart from watching TV, what is the only thing Paul says he did before Ella arrived?
6. According to Ella, what are the four chores Paul said he would do?
7. Why does Paul say the bathroom is not a problem? (And do you think he is being serious? Give a reason for your answer.)
8. When are Paul and Ella's guests going to arrive?
9. Why does Ella say she needs Paul to do the washing up?
10. Why are there crumbs on the carpet?

Exercise 2

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), or if the text doesn't say (D).

1. The conversation takes place at the weekend.
2. Paul has never cooked a nice meal for Ella.
3. Paul put some shelves up the previous weekend.
4. Paul and Ella don't have any washing-up liquid.
5. Paul and Ella had already talked about who would do the chores.
6. Ella thinks the flat is very dirty.
7. Ella is not tired.
8. Paul has been eating something.
9. Paul is drinking something.
10. Paul and Ella disagree about how quickly they will have to work before their guests arrive.

A domestic disagreement

WORKSHEET C

Exercise 3

The text from Worksheet A has been copied below, but contains some mistakes. Twenty-five of the words in bold are incorrect, and five are correct. Decide which are incorrect, and correct them.

- Ella:** How (1) **go** this carpet's covered (2) **on** (3) **crubs**? Have you been eating those (4) **biscuits** again?
- Paul:** Yeah. They're nice.
- Ella:** Well, you know where the (5) **hover** is.
- Paul:** I thought it was your (6) **tour**.
- Ella:** No, Paul, we agreed about today's (7) **shores**. We said I'd do the shopping and you'd (8) **make** the washing up, the (9) **dust** and the hoovering. And what (10) **out** the bathroom? You said you'd clean it about three days ago. We've got people coming (11) **round** for dinner tonight – do you really want them using our bathroom the way it looks at the moment?
- Paul:** They won't (12) **not**. I haven't changed that light (13) **bib** yet, so it's quite dark in there.
- Ella:** It's not funny, Paul. It's not (14) **fair** to be lazy like this. Especially when I've just been shopping for an hour and a half. You know what the supermarket's like on a Saturday – the (15) **queues** are (16) **ful**. And I had to wait twenty minutes for the bus back – twenty minutes! I'm (17) **exhaust**, and you've just been sitting here watching TV.
- Paul:** That's not true. I've (18) **put** the bed.
- Ella:** Big (19) **dear**.
- Paul:** Hey, don't start saying I don't do my (20) **hair** around the flat, ok? Who does all the (21) **DYI**? Who put these (22) **shelves** up last weekend?
- Ella:** You did. All I'm saying is that we'll have guests here in about three hours and this flat's a (23) **pigsty**. So we need to get a move (24) **in**. I can't start cooking until you've done the washing up – all the pans I need are dirty.
- Paul:** Alright, alright. Just let me finish my (25) **tee**, ok? There's no (26) **hush**.
- Ella:** That's easy for you to say. You haven't got a three-(27) **car** meal to make.
- Paul:** Well, cooking's easier than (28) **clean**.
- Ella:** How do you know? When was the last time you cooked for guests?
- Paul:** Er...
- Ella:** Exactly. Now come on, let's make a start. If you (29) **run out** washing-up liquid there's a (30) **new** in my shopping bag.