

4

The audition

Before you watch

- 1 **Work in groups. Discuss these questions about telephoning.**
 - a) Do you like speaking on the phone? Why/why not?
 - b) How often do you usually speak on the phone each day?
 - c) Who do you usually speak to on the phone?
 - d) Have you ever experienced problems with mobile phones? What kind of problems?

While you watch

- 2 **Watch the programme and circle the correct options.**
 - a) The film is about *Alex King* / *Alex Keen*.
 - b) Alex is a *film director* / *an actor*.
 - c) Alex is trying to get a taxi to *Ealing Studios* / *Belsize Park*.
 - d) He has an *audition* / *a meeting* at the studios.
 - e) At the start of the film Alex feels *happy* / *sad* and *nervous* / *excited*.
 - f) At the end of the film Alex feels *depressed* / *nervous*.
 - g) Alex *does* / *doesn't* manage to get to the audition.



- 3 **Work with a partner. Read the parts of the story and put them in the correct order.**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>a) Alex books a cab with 123 Taxis to Ealing Film Studios. The woman tells him that the cab, Moscow 205, will be five minutes. <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>thunder and the pouring rain and pulls out his sandwich. Too late. No film, no stardom, no taxi. <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
| <p>b) There aren't any taxis. Alex calls David Antonucci to say he can't get to the studios in time, but he gets David's voice mail. He leaves a message asking David to call him urgently. <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>e) Alex waits anxiously in the pouring rain for David to call back. He sees an unlocked car and he is so desperate he thinks about stealing it. He receives a good luck text message from Sarah. But this isn't his lucky day. <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
| <p>c) Alex receives a call from Sarah and he tells her more about the audition. During the conversation he gets an urgent call from David Antonucci from Ealing Studios. David asks if Alex can arrive fifteen minutes earlier. Alex agrees. <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>f) The taxi hasn't arrived yet and Alex is worried. He tries to call 123 Taxis but he gets a wrong number. Then he speaks to 123 Taxis – his cab should arrive soon. <input type="checkbox"/></p> |
| <p>d) David Antonucci calls Alex back and passes him over to Mr Spielberg. They start to speak but Alex's mobile phone battery runs out. Poor Alex! He sits on a park bench in the</p> | |

- g) Suddenly Alex sees his 123 cab arrive, but the driver doesn't stop. So Alex calls another company, Ever Ready Cabs, who say a cab will take fifteen minutes. That's not quick enough to help Alex, so he doesn't book it.
- h) Alex King leaves a delicatessen in Belsize Park. He is on the phone to his friend Sarah. He is telling her about his exciting audition for a Steven Spielberg film. He asks her to call him back because he has to call a cab.



4 Watch the programme again to check your answers.

After you watch

5 Complete these phone conversations from the programme with the words in the box.

I'll ringing sorry saying it's hear speak breaking wondering afraid

A
 David: Could I a) _____ to Alex Keen, please?
 Alex: King.
 David: I'm sorry?
 Alex: It's King. Alex King. You said Keen.
 David: Oh, I'm b) _____, Mr King. My name's David Antonucci. I'm c) _____ from Ealing Studios on behalf of Mr Spielberg.
 Alex: Oh, right.
 David: I was d) _____ if you could be here a quarter of an hour earlier. Mr Spielberg has another engagement and then he has to leave immediately for the airport.
 Alex: No problem. e) _____ be there. I wouldn't miss this for the world.
 David: Thank you very much. We'll see you soon then. Goodbye.

B
 Woman: 123 Taxis.
 Alex: Hello, f) _____ Alex King. I booked a cab over ten minutes ago.
 Woman: We're doing all we can, Sir, but I'm g) _____ we're rather busy this afternoon. A cab should be with you ...
 Alex: Can you speak up? I can't ...
 Woman: ... the cab should ... in about ...
 Alex: Hold on, you're h) _____ up. Hello?
 Woman: Can you i) _____ me now?
 Alex: Yeah, yeah, yeah.
 Woman: I was just j) _____ that the cab should be with you any minute now.
 Alex: You're sure? This is very urgent.
 Woman: We're doing everything we can, Sir.

6 Work with a partner. Choose two of the situations and write telephone conversations. Then practise the conversations.

dialling a wrong number calling a taxi

leaving a message calling someone to change an appointment