

English on the air II

إنجليزي عَ الهواء II

Comprehension

فهم

Today's Reading:

- **Daniel 1: 14-19:** The steward agreed to do it and fed them vegetables and water for ten days. At the end of the ten days they looked better and more robust than all the others who had been eating from the royal menu. So the steward continued to exempt them from the royal menu of food and drink and served them only vegetables. God gave these four young men knowledge and skill in both books and life. In addition, Daniel was gifted in understanding all sorts of visions and dreams. At the end of the time set by the king for their training, the head of the royal staff brought them in to Nebuchadnezzar. When the king interviewed them, he found them far superior to all the other young men. None were a match for Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

Vocabulary

مفردات ومعاني

Describing People

وصف الناس

For today's episode we encourage you to go back to season I of English on the Air & check the episodes regarding the family tree, colors and description.

- Tell me about your father. What kind of person is he?

Well, he's very friendly, smart and funny.

- What does he look like?

He's young, short and handsome.

He has straight black hair and green eyes.

- What does your mother look like?

She's tall, thin and beautiful.

She has blonde hair and wears glasses.

- How about your little sister?

She has curly red hair and a cute smile.

Everybody likes her.

- What is your brother wearing?

He's wearing light brown pants and an orange t-shirt.

- What kind of shoes does he have (on)?

Sneakers, and he's wearing white socks.

- Is Susan wearing a dress?

No. She's wearing a blue skirt and a yellow blouse.

- Anything else?

Yes. She's wearing boots and carrying a purse,

Grammar

القواعد

Prepositions:

- Prepositions are short words (on, in, to) that usually stand in front of nouns (sometimes also in front of gerund verbs).
- Even advanced learners of English find prepositions difficult. One preposition in your native language might have several translations depending on the situation.
- There are hardly any rules as to when to use which preposition. The only way to learn prepositions is looking them up in a dictionary, reading a lot in English and learning useful phrases off by heart.

Prepositions – Time:

| English | Usage | Example |
|----------------|---|--|
| On | - Days of the week | - on Monday |
| In | - months / seasons - time of day - year - after a certain period of time (when?) | - in August / in winter - in the morning - in 2006 - in an hour |
| At | - for night - for weekend - a certain point of time (when?) | - at night - at the weekend - at half past nine |

Prepositions – Time:

| English | Usage | Example |
|---------|---|-----------------------|
| Since | - from a certain point of time (past till now) | - since 1980 |
| For | - over a certain period of time (past till now) | - for 2 years |
| Ago | - a certain time in the past | - 2 years ago |
| Before | - earlier than a certain point of time | - before 2004 |
| To | - telling the time | - ten to six (5:50) |
| Past | - telling the time | - ten past six (6:10) |

Prepositions – Time:

| English | Usage | Example |
|-------------------|---|---|
| To / till / until | - marking the beginning and end of a period of time | - from Monday to/till Friday |
| Till / until | - in the sense of how long something is going to last | - He is on holiday until Friday. |
| By | - in the sense of at the latest - up to a certain time | - I will be back by 6 o'clock. - By 11 o'clock, I had read five pages. |

Idioms:

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--------------|--|
| Cal it a day | <p>-Time to go home, the end of the workday.</p> <p><i>It's already 10 o'clock, let's call it a day and we'll pick up tomorrow at 7.</i></p> |
| Green | <p>-New, inexperienced.</p> <p><i>She just started working here yesterday, so she's still pretty green.</i></p> |
| On the fence | <p>-Unsure, undecided.</p> <p><i>I am on the fence about this—I don't know which job offer to accept.</i></p> |

Idioms:

| Idiom | Meaning |
|-----------------|---|
| Yellow bellied | <p>A person who is <i>yellow-bellied</i> is cowardly, or not at all brave.</p> <p><i>The bus was full of yellow-bellied passengers who disappeared when the driver was attacked by two youths.</i></p> |
| Zero tolerance | <p>If an activity or a certain type of behaviour is given <i>zero tolerance</i>, it will not be accepted, not even once.</p> <p><i>The authorities have announced zero tolerance for smoking in public buildings.</i></p> |
| Mad as a hatter | <p>To say that someone is <i>as mad as a hatter</i> means that they are very strange or insane.</p> <p><i>The old lady next door is as mad as a hatter. She says the strangest things!</i></p> |