

Conversation 2

What would you do?

Who do you talk to when you have a problem? Do you solve problems yourself, or do you ask for advice?



Class CD 1, Track 43

- Jim:** OK, Tamara, what's the problem?
Tamara: Oh...I don't know.
Jim: Come on, I'm your friend—do you want to talk about it?
Tamara: OK. It's Ken. He's really fun to be with, but he's the cheapest guy I've ever gone out with.
Jim: Why? What did he do?
Tamara: Last night we went to a movie. I bought the tickets while he parked the car.
Jim: So?
Tamara: Well, he never gave me any money for his ticket. Then he went to the snack bar and came back with popcorn and soda...for himself! He never even asked me if I wanted anything!
Jim: Wow! That sounds pretty bad.
Tamara: I know. I really like him, but he makes me so mad. What should I do?
Jim: You should start looking for a new friend!



Class CD 1, Track 44

Pronunciation Focus

The intonation in *Wh-* questions usually falls. In *Yes/No* questions, it usually rises. Listen to these questions.

What's the problem?

Do you want to talk about it?

Listen to the conversation again and notice the intonation of the questions.

GIVE IT A TRY

1. Asking for and giving advice

What's the problem? matter?	Ken is the cheapest guy I've ever gone out with. What should I do?
What are you upset about?	I don't know what to do.
Why don't you talk to him about it?	
You should	start looking for a new boyfriend!
If I were you, I'd...	

PRACTICE 1

Class CD 1
Track 45

Listen to the example. Student B has a problem. He or she explains the problem to Student A and asks for advice. Student A chooses the best advice from the suggestions below or uses his or her own idea.

Student B's problems

1. your math grades are not good
2. you share a room with your brother or sister and he or she snores
3. you're gaining weight; your clothes don't fit
4. you saw your close friend holding hands with someone else

Student A's suggestions

- wake him or her up
- ask him or her about it
- start exercising
- buy some earplugs
- go on a diet
- study more
- break up with him or her
- your idea _____

PRACTICE 2

Reverse roles and repeat Practice 1.

Student A's problems

1. your brother or sister takes your things without asking
2. your best friend owes you money
3. you are always tired in class
4. your parents are too strict

Student B's suggestions

- tell your parents how you feel
- go to bed earlier
- ask the friend to lend you money
- ask him or her to pay you back
- tell your parents
- drink coffee before class
- ask your parents to change their rules
- your idea _____

2. Describing consequences

Ken is the cheapest guy I've ever gone out with.
What should I do?

Why don't you talk to him about it?

If I criticize him, he'll get mad at me!

In that case, I think you should start looking for a new friend!

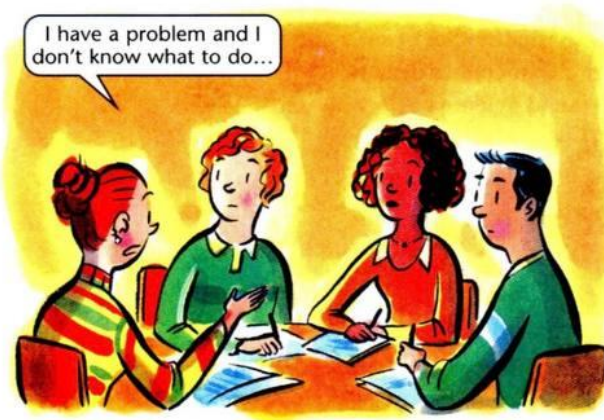
PRACTICE 1

Class CD 1
Track 46

Listen to the example. Then choose one of the problems from the previous practices. Respond to your partner's advice by describing the consequence of his or her advice. Your partner will give additional advice. Reverse roles.

PRACTICE 2

Work in groups. Each of you will describe an everyday problem and get advice from the other members of your group. Respond to each suggestion by describing the consequences.



Use These Words

Good idea!
I suppose I should.
I haven't tried that.
That wouldn't work.
That's no good.
I've tried that and it didn't work.

LISTEN TO THIS

Class CD 1
Track 47

Part 1 Listen to three conversations between people asking their friends for advice. Write the problems in the chart.

Part 2 Listen again and write the advice.

	Problem	Advice
1		
2		
3		

Part 3 What questions does each person ask to find out if there's a problem? Make a list.

PERSON TO PERSON STUDENT A

(Student A looks at this page. Student B looks at page 109.)



Part 1 Your partner is a counselor. You are going to talk to him or her about the problem below. Read the description of the problem carefully and then explain it. Answer any questions your counselor asks. Listen carefully and write down his or her suggestions.

Your problem:

You want to take a year off when you finish school to travel through Europe with your friend. You want to visit all the famous art museums in Paris, Rome, and London. You could practice your English! You'd learn a lot about art. You want to be an artist one day. Your parents are really against you going to Europe, though. They say it's dangerous. They say you should settle down and find a job and start earning some money so you can save up to buy a house.

Suggestions:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Part 2 You are now a counselor for your partner. Listen carefully to his or her problem. Ask questions so that you understand the problem completely. Then give three suggestions about what your partner should do.

Part 3 Do you like the suggestions that your partner gave? Discuss with your partner why each one would or would not work.

Now Try This

Think of a real problem that you had in the past. How did you solve it? Tell your partner about the problem and see what advice he or she can suggest. Then compare the advice with what really happened.